

THE TIMES Tomorrow

It's my party
In the first of a series, Peter Shore, would-be Labour leader, tells of the Labour Party he would like to see

Open invitation
In the Times Guide to the British Open, John Hennessy gives an expert view of the course, the holes and the players

Fancy dress
Suzy Menkes takes a look at the fashionable side of a masquerade ball and the animal appeal of leopard skin

House warming
Computer Horizons reports on how soon it will be possible to work from your living room and how a British whizz-kid is taking on the Japanese

No picnic
Stephen Taylor on the people of Matabeleland caught between the Government, the Army and the guerrillas

Chile jails leader of opposition

The president and two other leaders of Chile's largest opposition party, the Christian Democrats, have been jailed on suspicion of organizing a protest against the military regime.

Scores of party activists shouted "Liberty, liberty" in the Supreme Court building as the three were led to an armoured van.

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US action on interest rates

The US Federal Reserve Board is expected to act today to raise interest rates, thus intensifying its clash with President Reagan over monetary policy.

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Nurses angry

Anger is mounting among nurses over poor and insecure conditions, with some threatening to go on strike. But, as the health service contemplates "fresh cuts", they see little sign of improvement.

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FINANCIAL TIMES

Renewed attempts will be made today by the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service to break the deadlock in the dispute at the *Financial Times* which has prevented publication for nearly six weeks.

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Time problem

A United Nations attempt to piece together an agreement on Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan is being held up because the Russians have yet to agree on a time frame.

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Divorce toll

The divorce rate in the Soviet Union has reached almost a million a year, a sociologist reports in *Pravda*. He gives a warning that marriage is in danger of dying out.

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War casualties

World Wildlife Fund surveys have found that large numbers of sea creatures and birds have died in the Gulf since Iranian offshore wells began spilling oil in February.

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Trade talks

The growing rift between the United States and Europe over steel imports is expected to dominate discussions between leading trading nations when their ministers meet at Leeds Castle, Kent, this week.

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Tour leader

Sean Kelly yesterday became the first Irish cyclist for 20 years to take the overall lead in the Tour de France. Another Irishman, Stephen Roche, took the white jersey as best newcomer.

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Letters: On death penalty, from Sir Arthur Peterson, and others; divorce, from Mr J. Eckelaar and others
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Teddy Taylor MP puts the case for capital punishment - and Anne Sofer reflects on its effect on Tory freedom of thought; Bernard Levin at the unions' graveside; finding a successor to Hastings Banda. Spectrum: the return of Omar Sharif. Modern Times: a horse, a horse...

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Battle in Cabinet likely as Lawson plans more cuts

By Philip Webster, Political reporter

A serious confrontation in Cabinet later this month in which they feel Mr Lawson "bounced" them into agreeing to last week's package by informing them of his plans at very short notice. Their backbench colleagues believe that they will be better prepared next time.

One of the reasons behind the hints of a cut in the 1984-85 planned total, are forecasts of reductions in tax revenues, mainly the yield from value-added tax (VAT), because inflation is lower than was expected when those plans were formulated. It was said in Whitehall yesterday that that factor could be offset to some extent if the economy grows at a rate faster than forecast.

The Treasury does not deny that difficult decisions will have to be taken. Conservative "wets" are delighted that Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, and possibly Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, whose departments were hit by last week's package, appear likely to line up against the Treasury with Mr Peter Walker and Mr James Prior, who have opposed largescale spending cuts in the past.

Mr Heseltine, in particular, was said by MPs to be angry at not being told about Mr Lawson's plans before he published his defence White Paper. He is determined to fight his department's corner against any Treasury suggestion that the commitment to increase

defence spending by 3 per cent a year should be shelved.

After the Cabinet has agreed a broad approach to spending next year, the detailed argument will begin with a series of "bilateral" meetings during the summer and autumn between the individual spending ministers and Mr Peter Rees, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

Even before it became apparent that Mr Lawson might want to revise the overall total, the talks had promised to be tough. Quite apart from the battle over the 1984-85 spending target, MPs are still expecting further "readjustments" this autumn.

Although Mr Lawson is said to regard last week's corrective measures as "adequate", the Treasury figures apparently show public borrowing at some £3,000m above the Budget figure of £2,200m.

There are growing signs of anxiety among the Conservative "wets" at the prospect of further cuts. Although there was no coordination of effort, a large number of Tory MPs spoke during the Queen's Speech debate about the need for the Government to make the reduction of unemployment a higher priority even than the reduction of inflation.

Mr Lawson's remark on television last weekend that a cut in the real value of unemployment benefit has not been ruled out led to immediate protests from some MPs.

Prior could sway vote on hanging for terrorists

By Philip Webster, Political reporter

A narrow majority against the reintroduction of capital punishment is still expected in Wednesday's Commons debate by supporters and opponents of a return to the death penalty.

The strong opposition voiced by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, at the weekend to hanging for terrorist murder, one of the categories on which MPs will be voting separately, could have an important influence on the outcome of that vote, MPs believe. But Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is expected to reaffirm his personal support for restoration for terrorist offences.

The amendment calling for the death penalty for murders committed as acts of terrorism, along with another relating to murder by "shooting or causing an explosion", were thought by MPs to have a better chance of succeeding than the general motion and amendments referring to other categories.

But, it was felt yesterday, the powerful appeal of Mr Prior, who would have to exercise in Northern Ireland the same functions as the Home Secretary in England and Wales in



Mr Prior: "Hanging is no deterrent"

considering whether reprieves against hanging should be granted, could sway some of the uncommitted MPs, thought to number about 20.

Mr Prior, who had told the Prime Minister and the Cabinet of his intention to speak out, said that his judgment was that the return of capital punishment would make it more difficult to bring terrorists to justice, strengthen their support and destabilize society in the province.

"I believe that executions of terrorists in Northern Ireland would serve not as a deterrent but as a new inspiration for the IRA and other extremists." He was therefore not basing his argument on the moral one, that it was wrong to take life, but on the practical effect the policy would have.

The Northern Ireland Assembly on Friday voted 35-11 for the return of hanging for terrorists. But Mr Prior, in a letter to the chairman of his local constituency association in Waverley, Suffolk, disclosed that the Chief Constable of the RUC, after consulting his senior officers, believed that capital punishment for terrorists would make the task of the police in Northern Ireland substantially more difficult.

"I appreciate that the Police Federation take a different view, but I must be swayed by the assessment of those with command responsibilities. Senior officers believe that if those possessing information about a terrorist crime knew the consequence of passing it to the police was likely to involve the execution of the terrorist

Continued on back page, col 1

Defecting Pole swims to freedom from yacht

Kalmar, Sweden (AP) A Polish engineer made a dramatic defection yesterday by jumping overboard from a yacht passing through the Strait of Kalmar on Sweden's east coast, the police reported. The Pole and Swedish witnesses said he was shot at from the yacht as he swam ashore.

Police would not confirm the shooting but said the defection took place at Revs Udde, about 10 miles north of Kalmar. The Pole was helped ashore by Swedish witnesses.

Eye witnesses said they heard what sounded like shots from a pistol or starting gun from the yacht, and the defector told a radio reporter: "The captain shot at me when I swam to Sweden." He jumped overboard when the yacht passed the narrowest part of the channel and was only about 50 yds from the shore.

The man, whose age was not given but who seemed to be in his thirties, said he was an electro-engineer who was unable to get a job in Poland because he was a member of Solidarity. He said he left his wife in Poland and sought political asylum in Sweden.

He had apparently planned his escape thoroughly. He joined a yachting society and boarded the yacht which left the Gdansk area on July 5 for a pleasure trip to Swedish waters with a five-man crew. They had no permit to visit Sweden, but the engineer, secretly, carried his passport.

City cash brings new hope for home loans

By Our Financial Staff

Mortgage queues could be cut in the next few months after the dramatic success of the largest building societies in tapping a new source of funds.

Six of the best known names, Abbey National, Woolwich, Halifax, Anglia, Nationwide and Alliance, have shown the way, in the wake of changes in the law contained in this year's Finance Act. These changes made it viable for the first time for them to borrow money in the City of London, rather than having to rely solely on depositors' savings.

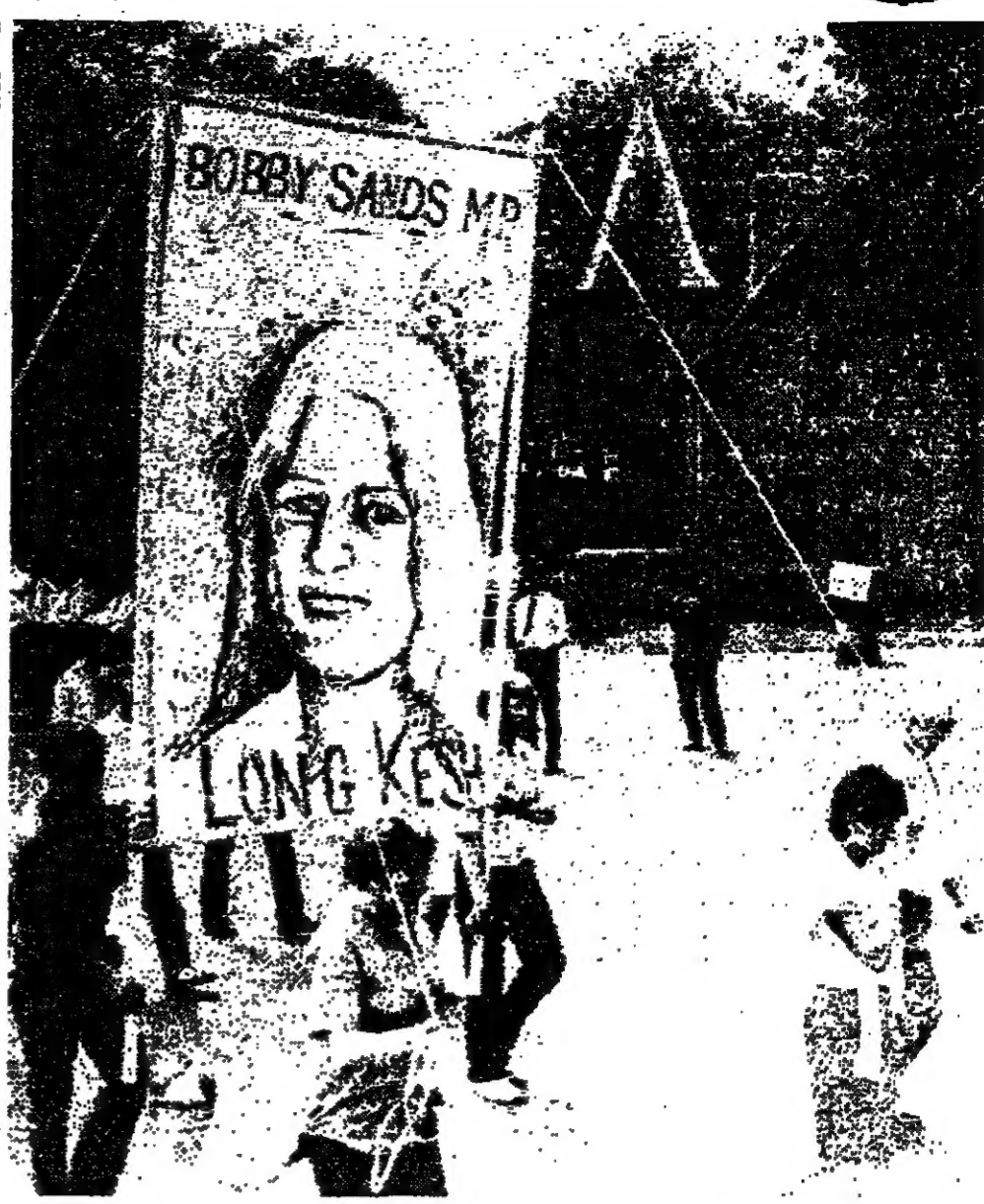
In the eight weeks since then, the six societies between them have borrowed more than £200m. In contrast, the entire building society movement took only £119m in May from small savers, its traditional source of funds.

The success of the societies in raising this amount of money so quickly owes much to backing for their efforts provided by the Bank of England. This is interpreted in the City as indicating that the Prime Minister is strongly opposed to any further increase in the mortgage rate or any lengthening of mortgage queues.

The Bank has discreetly impressed on the City the need for it to provide societies with funds to help them meet their commitments.

The success of these money-raising efforts is sure to lead to other societies seeking funds in this market, and if the funds continue to be available at present rates of interest - under 10 per cent last week - they could raise enough between them to satisfy mortgage demand without having to raise rates to depositors.

The decision to accept these proposals from the country's employers was taken at a weekend conference of the Metal Working and Watch Industry Federation, which



Sinn Fein supporters march past Lord Mountbatten's former holiday home yesterday.

Arafat gets invitation to Moscow for talks

Rome (Reuters) - Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Liberation Organization leader, will visit Moscow this week to discuss the split in the PLO and his quarrel with Syria.

Speaking to reporters at Rome airport on his way from Tunis to East Berlin, Mr Salah Khalaf said that Mr Fawzi Kaddumi, the PLO "foreign minister", would go to Moscow to prepare the visit.

The invitation was delivered to Mr Arafat by the Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Tunis. Mr Khalaf also known as Abu Iyad and usually regarded as Mr Arafat's number two in the Fatah guerrilla group, said the Soviet invitation had come at the right moment.

A commission set up by the PLO executive committee to mediate with Syria and dissident groups, who have rebelled against Mr Arafat's leadership, had achieved nothing.

He said that the dissident movement had been created with Syrian and Libyan support. "Without Syrian support this problem would not exist".

"Inside any party there are constructive differences, and requests for improvement, but you cannot use arms to formulate requests", he added.

In Tunis, Palestinian sources said that Mr Kaddumi would arrive in Moscow today and have talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

The Palestinian news agency, Wafa, said that Mr Kaddumi and Mr Abu Mazen and Mr Yasser Rabbat, both PLO executive committee members, would discuss recent events on the Palestinian scene and "American aggression" against the PLO.



Mr Arafat: Seeking Soviet backing.

Aide refused visa

Peking talks upset by Hongkong slip

From David Bonavia and Richard Hughes, Hongkong

Tomorrow's Anglo-Chinese talks in Peking on Hongkong will get off to a tricky start following China's slip on the wrist to Sir Edward Youde, the governor of Hongkong, for saying that he represented the British-ruled territory.

Sir Edward's remark was made in answer to a question at a press conference, and seems to have been a tactical slip. Both Sir Edward and the Foreign Office are well aware that China considers the talks to be bilateral, not trilateral.

In Chinese eyes no British governor may represent 5.5 million Chinese people in their relations with the People's Republic.

The talks, expected to last only one day, will formally present Sir Edward as a member of the British delegation, a point which China emphasizes. Peking is prickly about any suggestion that Britain has a responsibility towards the people of Hongkong, considering that an interference in China's "internal affairs".

Mr Peter Tsao, the director of the Hongkong Government information services, has been

refused a visa to accompany Sir Edward to Peking. He was clearly astonished at the decision but declined to comment, referring questioners to the New China news agency, which represents Peking in Hongkong, and also refused to comment.

This is the first time that a senior Hongkong civil servant has been denied a visa to China on official business. Mr Robert McLaren, Hongkong's political adviser, and Mr Y. P. Chang, the chief government interpreter, were both given visas before Sir Edward's remark.

The refusal could be used by the British delegation to attack Peking, as Peking would certainly have done if the meeting place and rulings had been reversed. Some Hongkong leaders are recommending strong and immediate counter-reaction.

Little progress is believed to have been made so far in the talks, which have been in progress in Peking since last year. Peking was offended by the stand taken by Mrs Margaret Thatcher during her visits to Hongkong and Peking last autumn.

Three die in holiday accidents

By Staff Reporters

Three people died in leisure accidents at the weekend as hot weather continued to bring out the crowds.

A boy aged 12, Craig Bennett, of Aberfeldy, died in hospital yesterday after he fell and hit his head while getting off a ride at a North Wales seaside funfair.

Christopher Seaton, aged eight, was drowned in a boating accident near his home at Holy Loch, Strathclyde on Saturday.

James Manning, aged 18, became entangled in thick weeds while swimming in a reservoir at Cranley, Northants, on Saturday and drowned despite the efforts of friends to save him.

While most of Britain enjoyed one of the hottest days of the year yesterday with temperatures into the 80s, fog and storms hit other parts of the country, including Cornwall, Ireland and South Wales.

Villagers protest at Sands rally

From Richard Ford, Mullaghmore, co Sligo

In a tiny Irish fishing village yesterday 1,500 supporters of the Provisional IRA commemorated Robert Sands, the hunger striker, only yards from where Lord Mountbatten of Burma died in a bomb explosion four years ago.

But as youths dressed in khaki uniform chanted "IRA, IRA, up the IRA" outside the gates leading to Clonsilla Castle, where the Mountbatten family spent their summer holiday, traders and local people in Mullaghmore, co Sligo, showed their anger at the decision to hold the rally in the village.

Holidaymakers stayed away from the beautiful bay, which should have been experiencing its busiest weekend of the holiday season: all shops and hotels closed; no milk or newspapers were brought into the village and instead of the 5,000 to 10,000 people who would normally have crowded the beach, only about 150 were on it, as the rally began.

The organizers also faced some embarrassment when one local independent councillor accused the IRA of fanning the flames of sectarianism and glamourizing militarism. This led to slow hand-clapping, pro-IRA chants and shouts of "join your bloodsucker Mountbatten" from an angry crowd, which in the end forced him to abandon his speech.

Four local councillors, the uncle of a man accused of murdering Lord Mountbatten and Mr Owen Carron, formerly MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, defended their right to hold the rally in Mullaghmore, honoured the 10 hunger strikers who died two years ago and called on Britain to get out of Ireland.

One hotel owner said that a coach party of 47 had cancelled their five-day stay. "They can have the village, but they will never buy here again. They will never buy anything here. They are not wanted. Lord Mountbatten gave a lot of employment to people here. We have no quarrel with anyone, but look at the effect it has had on the village when people had forgotten all about it", he said.

In the village, the mothers of Robert Sands and Patsy O'Hara, another hunger striker, sat on a platform listening to speakers praising their fast to death and defending the struggle against the British Army.

Mr Carron got the loudest cheer when he said that the hunger strikers had been doing what Irishmen had done for 800 years - demanding their freedoms.

The rally had been criticized by the Irish Government, leading Fianna Fail politicians, the local Roman Catholic bishop and Unionist politicians.

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Tebbit aims new union proposals at heart of unions' organization

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A White Paper containing the Government's latest proposals for labour law reforms will be published tomorrow against a background of recent union conference declarations that the new laws would be ignored.

The proposals, drawn up by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, will include provisions for ballots of union members for the election of executives, ballots before strikes are called, and periodic votes among union members on whether political funds should be maintained.

Details of tomorrow's White Paper will have a critical influence on the General Council when it debates later this month whether to respond to the Government's overtures for discussions on several issues. Those include proposals to make it easier for members to contract out of paying the political levy and the possibility of restricting strikes in essential services.

Union opposition to the proposals will also centre on what they see as attempts to interfere with their internal

mechanisms. Last week the annual conference of two influential unions, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Union of Mineworkers made clear that they would not cooperate with the laws even if that led to fines or imprisonment.

Unions have been guided in the past by the apparent reluctance of employers to use the 1980 and 1982 Acts to seek damages when industrial action, which could have been unlawful, was taking place. But the latest tranche of proposals is aimed at the union's organization.

Mr Tebbit is proposing that union executives should have to seek reelection every five years through individual secret ballots. A similar kind of ballot will have to be laid before an executive is able to call strike action. Failure to comply with pre-strike ballots could leave unions open to actions for civil damages by employers.

The third strand of the White Paper is expected to be compulsory ballots, probably every 10 years, among union members

on whether their union should continue to maintain a political fund. That will be a compromise by the Government from its original intention to introduce legislation to make members contract in to paying the political levy rather than the present system of contracting out.

There are likely to be bitter divisions within the TUC over the publication of these latest proposals. Those union leaders who favour talking to the Government will be accused by their more militant colleagues of holding discussions with the "executioner".

The unions will be reluctant to modify their rules, and traditional custom and practice. The transport workers' conference last week made clear that it would continue "business as usual" in spite of labour legislation.

The union, like the miners, is committed to non-payment of fines, which could be as high as £250,000. Further, Mr Mostyn Evans, the TGQU general secretary, said that he was prepared, if necessary, to go to jail to oppose the laws.

Blaze hero may get award

Mr Jeff Naylor, a fireman, who was dragged from a blazing house as he tried to rescue a girl aged 10 died yesterday three months later. Mr Naylor, aged 32, father of two, died without knowing that the girl, Sylvia Smith, had died herself, in spite of his efforts.

Now Mr Naylor is being considered for a posthumous bravery award for his heroism at the fire in Bromhill Walk, Keighley, West Yorkshire, in April. "He was the bravest man I have ever seen", the girl's mother, Mrs Lydia Smith, aged 29, said last night.

Mrs Smith, who lost two of her five children in the fire, said at her new home in Elmwood Road, Keighley: "The fire engine did not even have time to stop before he was in through the door. He just went straight in, regardless of the flames lashing out of the front room."

Mr Naylor fought his way up the blazing stairs, snatching the child from her bedroom.

Moscow mayor is jostled
Angry young Jewish demonstrators, some wearing prison camp clothing, jostled and shouted at the Mayor of Moscow yesterday as he arrived for a London lunch with representatives of the Greater London Council.

More than 20 protesters chanting "Free Soviet Jewry", encircled Mr Vladimir Fromyev, as he made his way through the courtyard of the Dickens Inn at St Katharine's Dock.

Gang war man shot dead

Detectives began house-to-house inquiries yesterday in the hunt for the killer of Henry Botton, a dealer aged 63, who was shot in the throat when he answered the door of his house in Shooters Hill, London, on Saturday night.

Mr Botton was involved in the Kray-Richardson gang warfare in the 1960s and was jailed for five years in 1966 for his part in an affray at Mr Smith's Club in Cardiff.

'Microchip' baby

The "micro chip" baby born at Hammersmith Hospital, on Friday, was named Amanda yesterday. She was born using the test-tube method and a computer to rate her chances after her parents, Beth and Roger Hornett, spent seven years trying to have a baby.

NUR delays action on strike-breakers

By Our Labour Correspondent

Leaders of the largest rail union undecided how to deal with hundreds of members who left the union over disciplinary sanctions imposed for strike-breaking, have delayed taking final action until a special conference in September.

The question of the dissenting members of the National Union of Railwaymen was due to be resolved at its annual conference in Bridlington, which ended on Friday, but the 77 delegates could not agree.

The union's executive will have to meet demands that the 12,000 members who worked during the two-day national strike in June last year should be punished while trying to prevent more defections. Several hundred have already left to form the breakaway Association of Professional Railway Staff.

Mr James Knapp, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, has been eager to heal wounds left by the strike and the departure of his predecessor, Mr Sidney Weighell, but his original suggestion for an amnesty was not put to last week's closed sessions because it was clear it would be rejected.

However, a compromise is emerging under which members who "blacklegged" and were banned from holding union

office for five years will have that ban lifted, reduced and officials who were banned from office for life will have their "sentence" cut.

The 12,000 were also denied union benefits, such as some forms of legal representation and access to union goods, including ties and diaries for five years. That is likely to be reduced to 18 months.

Final rulings at the special conference in London will coincide with a move to increase subscriptions to cope with the fall in NUR membership, from 165,000 to about 150,000 over the past 12 months.

The private sessions also saw the first big defeat for Mr Knapp. He had argued to be allowed flexibility to negotiate with British Rail on productivity, but delegates, angered by the loss of more than 20,000 jobs over the past two years, blocked any new arrangements.

BR wants to remove guards from freight and some passenger trains.

Union officials fear that 10,000 jobs could be threatened by the introduction of one-man operations on trains and argue that their appeals to the Government for more investment have not been listened to, despite their belief that they have delivered on productivity

Million children in poverty, says Low Pay Unit

More than a million children are in poverty or close to it, because of parental low wages, a report says today. A total of 1,150,000 children live in families where the breadwinner earns less than 40 per cent above the supplementary benefit level, according to a study by the Low Pay Unit.

The report, *Poverty at Work*, says it is based on official statistics, and challenges the Government's assertion that low pay is not a main cause of poverty.

It says more than 11,500,000 people living in nearly seven million families, earned no more than 40 per cent above the supplementary benefit level.

"Despite the widespread belief that most of the low-paid are married women or young people without dependants, the statistics show that large numbers of working families are trying to bring up children on a poverty wage," it says.

The report calls for measures to tackle what it calls "the problem of low-wage poverty."

Moorland sealed in murder reconstruction

About fifty people were brought together to the Derbyshire Peak District village of Castleton yesterday to stage a reconstruction of the last hours of Susan Richards, aged 21, the murdered art student, from Manchester Polytechnic.

A large area of moorland above the village was sealed off by Police Constable Brenda Kirby, aged 27, took the role of the murder victim.

Det Supt Peter Burgess, who is leading the murder hunt, said he was confident the "human jigsaw" exercise would provide him with vital evidence about the murder.

Dr John Bodkin Adams, who died last week aged 84, was charged at the Central Criminal Court in 1957 with the murder of one of his elderly patients, Mrs Edith Morrell, by administering powerful and dangerous drugs.

After a 17-day trial during which he spoke only six words, "I am not guilty, my Lord," he was acquitted by the jury. They considered their verdict for only 44 minutes. Had the verdict been one of guilty the prosecution would have brought a similar case of murder against him, again involving one of his patients.

Mr Charlie Hewitt, a former Detective Chief Superintendent, who spent more than a year on the Dr Adams case, is convinced he was a mass murderer. He suspects he may even have killed a victim whose evidence could have sent him to the gallows.

In a book to be published next month Mr Hewitt says: "He was as glib as hell but he had the luck of the Devil. He was without doubt a mass murderer who deserved to hang 20 times over. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind about his guilt. But he was allowed to escape the gallows or even imprisonment because the law made an ass of itself."

Mr Hewitt, now aged 71, of Worcester Park, Surrey, was quoted in *Where There's a Will*... by Rodney Halliwell, a former chief crime reporter. The book is to be published by Capstan Press.

Mr Hewitt added: "The doctor was beneficiary in 132 wills and I think he helped



Sir Frank Price, chairman of the British Waterways Board, on the bank of the Regent's Canal in London. (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Canal system champion stays

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

When Sir Frank Price became chairman of the British Waterways Board in 1968 one of his first tasks was to approve the closure of more than 10 miles of the Ashton and Peak Forest canal, near Manchester. Research and consultation were complete: Sir Frank's only role was to sign.

"I walked the canal and said it must be a mistake. I pleaded for more time and now the canal is something all the local authorities are very proud of because it is being used as a leisure waterway," he said yesterday.

Sir Frank, who will be 62 this month, is the longest-serving chairman of a nationalized

industry. He was to have stepped down last month, but rejected business offers so that he could stay with the board at least until the end of the year.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, asked Sir Frank to stay to give the Government time to find a suitable successor.

The heyday of commercial canals in Britain was brought to a rapid end by the growth of railway transport. Many waterways which had once carried huge loads of coal, metals and other industrial goods were derelict before the death of Queen Victoria.

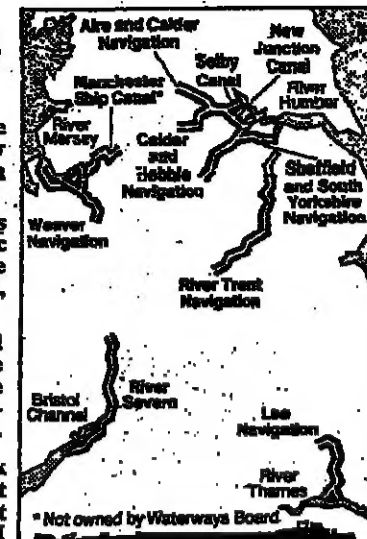
By the time Sir Frank arrived, the voluntary enthusiasts who wanted to save much

of what remained of the commercial canal network for leisure use saw the board as a principal agent of destruction.

"The Inland Waterways Association was antagonistic towards the board, and the board virtually ignored them," Sir Frank explained.

"I recognized that we would have more and more leisure time as a nation, and that we would need all of the waterways that we had, and more."

"When I came in, I think that on the commercial side it had been decided there was not future for the waterways. I have achieved confidence among people to invest in the system."



Still working: Britain's commercial waterways.

Warning on clashes by CND chief

Mr Bruce Kent, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, has written to the commander-in-chief of the Queen's Own Royal Highlanders about "the possibility of the wounding or even killing by British troops of unarmed members of the peace movement at some time in the future."

In his letter, Mr Kent says he realized members of the battalion on duty at RAF Greenham Common, where cruise missiles are to be deployed, were unarmed when confronting women peace protesters, but he said he wrote "as a consequence of the chilling spectacle of British troops now facing unarmed British citizens in Berkshire countryside."

Mr Kent says the 1907 Hague Convention states the right to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited and suggests that the *British Manual of Military Law* says members of the Armed Forces are bound to obey lawful orders only.

"In the same section of the manual, particular responsibility is placed on senior officers to prevent the operation of unlawful orders," he writes. "I wonder if your soldiers at Greenham should not think more about the kind of warfare represented by cruise missiles and its illegality than about the non-violent protest of the women gathered there in the call of conscience?"

Mr Kent urged the commanding officer to raise some of the points in his letter with his superiors.

The Ministry of Defence said last night that the Queen's Own Royal Highlanders had not yet received the letter.

He suggested that might be because Mr Kent had sent his letter to Inverness, whereas the battalion's HQ is at Tidworth, and many of those people on their way. He eased them out of his life often for gain. Of all those deaths 25 were stone bonkers.

"The trouble was that so many of his victims were cremated - of the 25 cists 14 were cremated. That is why it was madness for the prosecution to go for one without a body."

"We had so many better cases and more specific evidence and what was more important, bodies. At the trial this meant we could not get the best out of the best forensic scientist of the day, Dr Francis Camps."

"I did not care if he was hanged for murder. This man was a menace and our job was to put him away. We could have made certain of that by going for manslaughter. We had more than enough evidence to convict for that."

But the Attorney General (Sir Reginald Maudslayi-Baile) was a political animal who saw this case as a chance to make capital. He wanted the knaves and the glory.

"He thought he could get them by breaking Bodkin Adams in the dock. And perhaps he could have done. The doctor was a worried man and had come close to breaking down with us already. He might have cracked."

But the classic courtroom confrontation never arose because the prosecution never considered the possibility that he might not be put in the witness box.

"That was the hallmark of the prosecution case. No anticipation and no attention

'Solvable' burglaries for detectives only

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Metropolitan Police are so overwhelmed by burglaries that they are experimenting in Ealing, West London, by sending detectives to investigate only those they are most likely to solve. The rest are handled by uniformed home beat officers.

The assessment of which burglaries detectives and special squads should pursue is calculated according to a formula introduced with the aid of Mr Gary Hayes, director of the United States Police Executive Research Forum. Mr Hayes says the priority scheme for burglaries is derived from a medical term, triage, which describes priorities for treatment.

The new approach has lifted morale among detectives who were spending too long on paperwork, and uniformed officers are delighted at having their role enhanced.

The extra policing in Ealing has meant that crimes handled by the uniformed officers have dropped, and crimes, including burglary, have fallen from 2,118

in the first five months of last year to 2,097 this year.

The experiment in Ealing springs from the wish of Mr David Powis, the Deputy Assistant Commissioner in charge of all CID operations in London, to apply a scientific approach using latest technological aids to crime-solving methods, while retaining a human face on policing.

Home beat officers are able to reassure victims and, with extra training, pick out factors which enable their superiors to calculate whether to call in a detective.

If the total solvability score is high enough the case is passed to the CID. While they may concentrate on, say, 20 per cent of crimes the remaining 80 per cent would be investigated by a home beat officer who can give the victim more attention.

If recurring patterns are discovered, the home beat officer, in conjunction with the CID and his superiors, can call on surveillance teams and other police specialists to mount operations at peak risk times

Forgery ring inquiry

By a Staff Reporter

Several people were questioned by the police yesterday in connection with an art forgery ring, allegedly involving millions of pounds, including a collection of 52 paintings. One man, who was arrested on Saturday, was released yesterday and bailed to reappear at Vine Street police station pending further inquiries.

Scotland Yard said they were searching for another man "One of the key people in this investigation still eludes us."

For the past nine months the police have been investigating a

collection of allegedly faked paintings by Medagliani and a group of artists known as the Vorisist school, a pre-First World War group of painters led by Wyndham Lewis. The *Sunday Times* yesterday catalogued the paintings and said it had traced the pictures to two men.

Scotland Yard confirmed that the account in *The Sunday Times* was substantially correct but added: "We would have preferred no publicity because this is an operational matter."

and financial backgrounds. I have always felt the home was financed by the doctor. He recommended clients to her and she recommended victims to him, not perhaps knowingly, but through providing information.

"She also knew so much of what went on between him and his patients. She knew where the bodies were buried and she was going to talk. She was scared and frightened. At the moment we left she was about to crack. One more visit was all that was needed. But we never got it. She died while we were away."

Sir Melford Stevenson, a retired High Court judge, who was junior prosecution counsel in the Adams trial, said: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Weekend jail sentences idea

Weekend prison sentences for people convicted of less serious offences are to be recommended in a report from the all-party penal affairs group.

It will ask Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, to consider schemes under which offenders, such as football hooligans, would report to prison for perhaps eight hours a day over the weekend, returning home in the evenings. The idea would mean that people convicted of less serious crimes could retain their jobs, and also spend less time with more serious offenders.

Science report Radioactive caesium found off Greenland

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Radioactive caesium, discharged by British Nuclear Fuels' reprocessing plant at Sellafield, formerly Windscale, has been detected in the north polar currents east of Greenland.

The concentrations are one thousandth of those measured at the discharge outlet into the Irish Sea.

The discovery that the radioactive caesium is carried into Arctic waters is reported by scientists from the Riso National Laboratory, Denmark, and the University of Lund.

Their findings are published in the latest issue of *Nature* and maps show how the material is dispersed by North Atlantic and Arctic Ocean currents.

The material is carried from the source around the north of Scotland, across the North Sea to merge with the Norwegian Atlantic current that moves close to the Norwegian coastline.

Then it veers west, between Norway and Iceland, and continues north to mix with the east Greenland polar current. The journey takes six to eight years.

Since the mid 1970s, discharges of radioactive caesium in the Irish Sea have increased the levels of radioactive material in the North Atlantic.

In the report in *Nature*, the scientists suggest that effluent from Sellafield could be used as a tracer to monitor waterborne pollution in the North Sea, which is the main recipient for discharges of all kinds from northern and western Europe.

Source: *Nature*, July 7-13, 1983.

£1m tennis spending defended

By Richard Eaton

Lawn Tennis Association and All England Club officials yesterday defended the decision to spend £1m on improvements to the Queen's Club in west London, and said the move would not affect loans to other clubs.

Although Queen's Club is owned by the Lawn Tennis Association it is run as a private club, and a weekend press report suggested that the largest investment in British tennis outside Wimbledon was being lavished on a privileged few.

Apparently the money for the improvements at Queen's does not come from the everyday resources of the associations but from a debenture share issue. One of the requirements of raising such money is that it must be spent on capital improvements.

The money to be spent is, therefore, different from that spent on other clubs and will not affect loans to other clubs at all, although the fact remains that loans elsewhere totalled a much smaller sum last year.

Work will begin in October on renewing the existing facilities at the Queen's Club and continue, when planning permission has been obtained, with four new indoor courts.

That should help to maintain the reputation of Wimbledon as the world's premier event by improving the practice facilities, and should also go a little way to remedying the lack of indoor courts that has held British tennis back in the past 20 years.

Both Sir Brian Burnett, chairman of the All England Club, and Mr James Cochran, president of the Lawn Tennis Association, were reported to be angry yesterday at what they regarded as misleading reports.

Covered courts at Queen's will be available not only for Wimbledon practice but for the Stella Artois championships, and it could be argued that such improvements are overdue.

Sir Brian also denied a report that Wimbledon tennis would be played under lights for the first time in its 105-year history. At this stage Wimbledon is apparently only experimenting with the possibility and might decide it was too expensive.

Mr Keith Wickenden: Perfect flying conditions

There was not enough time for it to get into a flat spin. He never stood a chance. The aircraft came down on the banks of the river Adur.

Mr Wickenden bought the aircraft earlier this year. He had the starboard engine fitted recently after the previous one had failed in flight.

Southern Air Limited, based at Shoreham airport, fitted the new engine after Mr Wickenden had bought it elsewhere. Southern Air said last night that the engine had had an official release note certifying it fit for flight.

It added that ground tests were done after the fitting as well as two hours of running at various power stages.

A pathologist was compiling a report after carrying out a post-mortem examination on the body of Mr Wickenden, who was alone on board his twin engine aircraft. A preliminary inquest is likely to be held in Shoreham later this week.

Mr Wickenden, aged 50, was chairman of European Ferries.

Mr Wickenden, who lived in Henfield, near Brighton, did not stand at the general election because he was suffering from sarcoidosis, a chronic lung disease.

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$28.25; Canada \$28.50; Denmark 100
Dkr 60; France 100; Germany 100; Italy 100
Japan 100; Netherlands 100; Norway 100
Sweden 100; Switzerland 100; USA \$1.25
UK £1.00; West Germany 100; Yugoslavia 100



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Nurses live with fear and squalor in cash-starved hostels

By Richard Dowden

More than 50 nurses living in an NHS hostel at the St Helier Hospital in Carshalton, Surrey, have just one bath and one cooker between them and no fridge.

The nurses, all students, live on the first floor of the five-storey hostel and along with 250 other nurses living there, share just one washing machine. At night many of the nurses are frightened because two entrances to the hostel supposed to be closed at 10pm are left permanently open, with no special security. "Any stranger can come and go as he pleases," one nurse says.

Hostels such as St Helier's are creating increasing dissatisfaction and even anger among thousands of Britain's nurses. But, as the health service contemplates a fresh round of cutbacks, the nurses see little sign of improvement.

At St Helier's, built in the 1930s, two of the five floors have been refurbished. But plans to improve the remainder have been shelved because of past cuts.

One result is that nurses,

especially those working shifts, have difficulty in sleeping because of noise as their colleagues move around in linocorred rooms and corridors. In some parts paint is peeling badly from the walls. One nurse said it was so depressing that two students she knew had taken drug overdoses because they were so unhappy.

St Helier's may be one of the country's worst hostels but its problems are not untypical. A survey by *Nursing Mirror* has shown that from 274 replies, nearly three-quarters thought security arrangements unsatisfactory and almost four out of five reported incidents of theft. *Nursing Mirror* has launched a national campaign to highlight the problem.

The Department of Health and Social Security said there were no special plans for the upgrading of nurses' hostels and it would be one of many priorities competing for health authorities' funds. Mr Timothy Yeo, Conservative MP for Suffolk, South, is expected to raise the matter in the Commons shortly.

One factor affecting hostel conditions is that nurses' homes are not subject to inspection by health and safety officers as local authority hostels or hotels are. As crown property, they are exempt from the enforcement provisions of the Acts governing health and safety.

They are ultimately the responsibility of the Health and Safety Executive, but one inspector described them as a "grey area".

Fire precautions are the responsibility of the health authority fire officer. One said: "I really have only an advisory role... some of the buildings are old and have been given dispensation from normal fire precautions."

About 48,000 of Britain's nurses live in hostels. Many are student nurses aged 18 living away from home for the first time, who know no one and have no one to turn to when they arrive. They work long hours, often at night, and are expected to study for examinations during off-duty time.

Since 1981, the health authorities have been encouraged to charge "realistic" rents for accommodation and most nurses pay between £35 and £45 a month. Many had to pay back-dated rent rises earlier this year in the same month in which they got their pay rise. In some cases the rent rise exceeded the pay rise.

There is no national system for running the hostels. Some health authorities leave it to the individual hospitals, others run them directly.

Guidelines for nurses' accommodation laid down in 1964 recommended: "Each person requires a separate bed-sitting room for sleeping, studying, reading, writing etc with washing facilities."

There should be one bath (or shower), one wc, and one kitchen utility room for every four to six persons.

Only one hostel visited by *The Times* came up to that standard, ten others visited or telephoned fell short on several counts.

The commonest problems are: General lack of maintenance. Many of the older hostels are drab, dingy and institutional.

Old-fashioned two-pin electrical sockets. Apart from the dangers of fire, nurses cannot use hair driers or kettles.

Few telephones, leaving the nurses lonely and isolated.

Lack of security. Many live in fear of prowlers and intruders.

Lack of provision for study, few rooms have desks or bookshelves.

Lack of freedom and privacy. Several nurses complained they were treated like children.

Lack of places to store food. Between 20 and 30 nurses frequently have to share a fridge and food can be pilfered from it. Many keep food in their rooms, but that brings in ants and cockroaches.

Although the Department has recommended setting up residence committees in the hostels, few have them.

Three case histories are given on the left.

None of the 19 nurses contacted by *The Times* would agree to the use of their names in an article. They all said they were afraid of being victimized or labelled as militant.



Dismal prospect: A St Helier nurse confronts peeling paint (Photograph: John Voos).

Middlesex Hospital

York House accommodates about 200 employees of the Middlesex Hospital, including 60 nurses. Electrical wiring in some nurses' rooms has not been replaced for at least 40 years although there are plans to rewire the building.

There are damp patches on some ceilings which have not been tackled since last winter, and the building is plagued with cockroaches.

On one floor about 60 people share three cookers, and because of the cuts, canteen opening hours have been reduced so it is difficult for nurses on some shifts to get a meal.

E Birmingham Hospital

At Devon House, which serves the East Birmingham Hospital, there are no staks in the rooms. Thirty-three nurses on one floor share three baths, five lavatories and six washbasins. There are two broken showers.

Sixty-six share a single cooker and a fridge. It is possible to wait three hours for a meal after some shifts because of canteen opening times and the nurses have bought their own microwave ovens.

The three doors to the hostel are left open 24 hours a day and, normally, one security officer patrols the whole hospital. There have been break-ins.

The window of her room, Miss [name], still has not been made secure, but the hospital accepts no responsibility for the loss. The building is in a bad state of repair, with filthy paintwork and leaking radiators.

All Saints, Lambeth

At All Saints, a hospital for acute psychiatric cases in Lambeth, London, 25 employees, including several nurses, live in a prefabricated hut built in 1948 as a short-term measure.

Staff and patients share the same sitting room and lavatory. Windows in the bathroom and kitchen are broken and the kitchen which serves the 25 staff

Protesters demand end to baggage checks

From Our Correspondent, Dover

A call for the removal of customs checks on hand baggage throughout the EEC was made at Dover docks yesterday when European Movement demonstrators demanded free movement of people and goods within the Community.

Travellers passing through Dover were met by placard-carrying members of the European Movement.

The organization has received a letter of support from Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, who said the Government would continue to give high priority to removing customs barriers.

Mr Christopher Jackson, European MP for East Kent, who was at the demonstration,

said: "We should tighten up checks on first entry to the EEC, particularly for things like drugs, but take major moves to free travellers within the EEC from any checks at all on hand baggage."

In parallel with this, there could be large increases in the allowances of goods that can be taken across the EEC free of VAT and excise duty.

"I have in mind particularly the problems of coach travellers passing through Dover who have to unload all their luggage."

"At the same time, we must push through the already envisaged simplifications for clearance of lorries, which often have to wait far too long for clearance."

Demolition firm to rebuild historic cottage

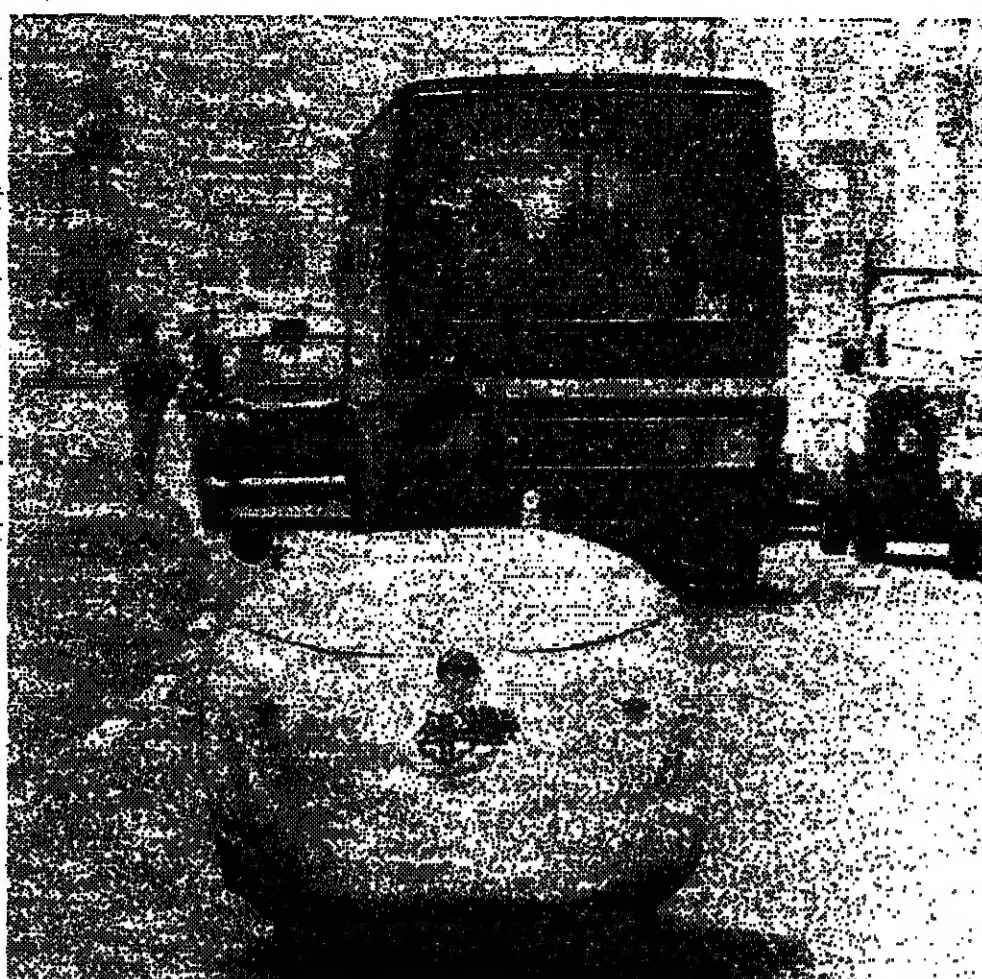
From Our Correspondent, Peterborough

Building contractors who demolished a 300-year-old stone cottage in Market Deeping, near Stamford, Lincolnshire, last week, are to be told to rebuild it.

The cottage formerly the King's Head Inn, was in a conservation area. It was being converted as part of a development for 12 mews shops, and the contractors had planning permission only for interior restoration.

South Kesteven District Council's planners are due to meet in 10 days. They are expected to issue an enforcement order.

The contractors, however, have already agreed to rebuild.



48-legged race: One of a team of 24 students from Imperial College, London, setting off from Charing Cross yesterday in a 18-gear Burrows Windcheetah tricycle to pedal 3,765 miles non-stop around the British coast and into the Guinness Book of Records in 10 days. They hope to raise £10,000 to buy an engine for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

British Open Championship £8m: A town's hole-in-one

By Ross Davies

Whichever of the world's great golfers carries off the £40,000 top prize in the British Open Championship this week, a number of clear winners have already emerged.

They are the people living within walking distance of the Royal Birkdale course near Southport, Lancashire, who have let their homes to golfers and spectators for the four days of the event. They are setting a minimum of £350 for what the local estate agents Ball & Percival call "a well-appointed semi" in, in one case, £4,000 for a detached property described as "right out of a James Bond film, complete with indoor swimming pool with a sliding floor which converts the area into a bedroom."

There has yet to be any dancing in the streets of this northern Eastbourne, for Southport is nothing if not sedate, but this financial hole-in-one reaches down to the humblest bed and breakfast accommodation, as a town with about 15,000 beds prepares to

welcome twice that number of visitors each night of the Open, which starts on Thursday. The home owner's should net more than the £310,000 total prize money and Southport could benefit to the tune of £8m.

Mrs Frances Crabtree, of Ball & Percival which handles offers of accommodation for the organizers, said: "It is terrible. I think I will be busy by this time next week. I have been fully occupied with the paperwork since February."

The town's hotels are fully booked for the event, the best suites have been for the past four years, since the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews announced where the 1983 Open was to be held. The club deftly booked up such accommodation as it needed shortly before the announcement was made. Players such as last year's winner, Tom Watson, and the winner of the United States Open, Larry Nelson, whose achievements exempt them from having to qualify for the

Open, have their accommodation booked for them in this way.

Back at Ball & Percival, Mrs Crabtree took a telephone call from Denver, Colorado. "It is someone booking a property, a two-bedroomed semi at, let's say, £400 for the week", she said. For how many visitors? "Oh, just the one."

The owner, she said, was moving out for the duration, but this was not always the case. "Some go on holiday, and some stay with friends or family", she went on.

"There are one or two who will be camping out in tents or caravans at the end of the garden, but that is by arrangement with the visitors, of course."

The £4,000 property had yet to be let, she said, but inquiries were still flooding in and she was working late at the office. The most expensive booking so far was £2,500 for "a lovely home sleeping six" but the average, usually for a four-bedroom semi is £1,000.

Protest over 'nameless' JPs

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Newspaper editors have protested to the Home Office over the growing practice of Magistrates' Courts refusing to disclose the names of characters or members of the bench to the press.

The latest instance occurred last Thursday, when a clerk at Action Magistrates' Court said the chairman of the bench that found a garage guilty of illegally docking employees' wages did not want her name disclosed.

Other instances have been reported, and the Guild of British Newspaper Editors has asked the Home Office for an explanation.

Mrs Margaret Mair, the guild's parliamentary and legal secretary, said: "Justice cannot

be seen to be done if the public cannot know who is administering it. This is anonymous justice."

The guild's view, as expressed in its letter, was that magistrates "must take the risk attached to anyone in public service".

There was no legal ruling on the matter, Mrs Mair said, but statute law seemed to support disclosure.

The section of the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1980, on reporting in criminal proceedings where restrictions are not lifted, puts the names of the magistrates at the top of the list.

Mr Peter Lydiate, clerk to the Action justices, said: "It is not the case that we refuse to give

names. But the court clerks are not allowed to disclose them. We have had trouble in the past from the press quoting not just names, but also addresses, so all inquiries must come through to me or my deputy."

In another case, the reason given to the *Finchley Times* was that the magistrate was worried that her car might be vandalized.

The Lord Chancellor's department said there was no policy on disclosing names, and it was up to members of the bench. An official added that magistrates were in a slightly different position from that of senior judges, in that they lived very much more within the local community.

Law Society accused of breaking the law

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society, which runs the civil legal aid scheme, is accused of breaking the law by sometimes refusing legal aid for advice on welfare benefits or nationality applications.

In a bulletin published today, the Legal Action Group of lawyers and advice workers says some firms of solicitors and law centres have had difficulty obtaining aid under the green form scheme.

Legal aid officials have advised that problems over benefit entitlement are purely "social and administrative" and "not a matter which requires

the skill and expertise of a solicitor." Clients should consult a Citizens' Advice Bureau, or the Department of Health and Social Security.

But the group says that, under the Legal Aid Act, 1974, "entitlement to benefit, governed by volumes of incoherent and preposterous regulations, is as much a matter of law as perusing a land registry document, or advising on making a will."

It concludes that it is likely the High Court would hold many of the Law Society's decisions unlawful.

Science teaching shake-up urged

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Substantial changes in the way science is taught in secondary schools are proposed by a government-backed body in a report being distributed to educationists and to industry and commerce.

The proposals are that pupils should learn science up to the age of 16, that their courses be broadened to include neglected subjects such as astronomy and that they be taught how to tackle practical difficulties. Students would also be required to undertake one important technological project.

The plan, prepared by the Secondary Science Curriculum Review over the past two years,

is based on the premise that a scientific and technologically literate population is central to economic growth and social well-being. One in ten students, about 94,000, study no science over the age of 13. Moreover few do all three sciences: physics, chemistry and biology.

That means that 73 per cent of boys and 81 per cent of girls are failing to study a broad range of science in their fourth and fifth years at secondary school.

The review group, is sponsored by the Association for Science Education, the Department of Education and Science, the Health Education Council,

the Northern Ireland Council for Educational Development and the Schools Council.

The Steering committee, which also includes representatives from the examination boards and the universities, the groups most likely to oppose reform, has started work on putting its proposals into practice through a development programme. That is where most of its £1m budget will go.

Science Education 11-16: Proposals for action and consultation. (Secondary Science Curriculum Review, Harford House, 101-103 Great Portland Street, London W1, free; comments to be in by end of November).

Public's help sought to tackle loan shark menace

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Loan sharks who trap mostly the disadvantaged into a whirlpool of debt and then resort to aggressive methods to ensure repayment got a warning yesterday from Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

Sir Gordon, who wants to curb the loan sharks, said local authority trading standards departments and his Office of Fair Trading needed "the cooperation and sometimes the courage" of the public in enforcing legislation which could stop illegal moneylenders.

At the same time the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux said the activities of moneylenders charging extortionate rates of interest were growing. It was particularly affecting inner-city areas where the unemployed and single-parent families resorted to moneylenders as the only means of raising loans.

The loan shark menace has been increasing for 18 months, the association said. Of five million inquiries last year to bureaux around the country, a 12 per cent increase on the previous year, a fifth concerned debt questions.

The sharks put pressure on debtors in several ways, the association reported. Women who had raised loans without their husbands' knowledge were threatened with disclosure to the husband. Vans marked

"debt collection" were parked outside debtors' home to cause them embarrassment with neighbours. There has been cases of bricks being thrown through windows.

Sir Gordon described a loan shark's favourite gambit by the loan sharks: illegally taking supplementary benefit or family allowance books as security against loans.

At Netherley, Liverpool, where there is a high unemployment rate and a large single-parent population, Miss Charlotte Anderson, the local advice bureau organizer, said she knew of cases where family allowance books had been impounded for as long as 11 years as debtors were trapped into a cycle of debts.

Last year the Netherley bureau handled 7,000 inquiries, half of which related to debts.

The Office of Fair Trading gave an example of one couple who borrowed £50 25 years ago to set up a home. This year, after a series of reloaning arrangements, they still owed £2,500, including interest.

Real rates of interest being charged by loan sharks can be well over 1,000 per cent when worked out on an annual basis.

Traders dealing in credit of more than £30 a loan must be licensed by the Office. Sir Gordon said public help was needed to prosecute sharks.

Inner-city action 'inadequate'

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Government attempts to rejuvenate Britain's decaying inner-city areas has achieved only minor successes, Shelter, the National Campaign for the Homeless, claims today.

Schemes, such as homesteading, shared ownership and building for sale, have had limited impact in inner urban areas, Shelter says. Since the Government launched urban initiatives in 1980 aimed at regenerating home ownership in inner-city areas, sales have totalled only 19,000 compared with 275,000 homes sold under the right-to-buy campaign and 315,000 private sector starts during the same period.

In Shelter's magazine, *Roof*, the organization says that less than 4 per cent of the vacant inner-city land, identified under the 1980 public land register, has been developed by private sector builders. About 108,000 acres of unused or underused land in urban areas have been identified by the Government as having potential for development.

Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, has suggested recently that it is local authorities' refusal to sell that land that is the main reason for such a poor development record.

But the House-Builders Federation has argued over the past year that only about 11 per cent of the land identified in the register is suitable for housing development.

Shelter claims the lack of private sector interest in inner-city sites is a combination of development difficulties and low consumer demand for homes on those sites.

Interest in inner urban land is particularly low in the North of England, Shelter says.

First public hearing on cable TV

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The first public hearing on cable television, sponsored jointly by two local authorities, will take place today in Sheffield. There will be another in London on July 20.

The hearings are significant since the Government's policy, outlined in the White Paper published in April, minimizes the influence local authorities could have on franchise applications for cable television systems. The Greater London Council and Sheffield Council are concerned that their views could be ignored since any cable television network is likely to want to lay cable in council housing estates. The organizers of the joint hearings said the purpose of the meetings were: "To raise questions about cable that had not adequately been dealt with."

Giving verbal evidence today will be representatives of the Post Office Engineering Union, the BBC and the IBA. At the meeting in London submissions will be heard from the National Union of Journalists, British Film Institute and the Association of Broadcasting Staffs among others.

The Government has invited applications for the 12 franchises which it intends to award by November. Applications must be submitted by the end of next month and will be for cable networks connecting about 100,000 homes.

The hearings, which are to be conducted by Mr Michael Ward, chairman of the GLC industry and employment committee and Mr David Blunkett, leader of Sheffield City Council, will be held in Sheffield council chamber and County Hall, London.

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Afghanistan puzzle

UN's agreement jigsaw still lacking one vital Soviet piece

From Michael Hamlyn, Islamabad

The jigsaw of an agreement on the withdrawal of Russian troops from Afghanistan which is being laboriously assembled by the United Nations special representative, is missing one big - and vitally crucial - piece: the Russians have yet to indicate what sort of schedule they have in mind for withdrawal.

In January, the parties to the talks, Pakistan and the Karmal regime in Afghanistan, agreed that the pull-out of Russian troops and cessation of "outside interference" would take place at the same time.

In April, the "proximity" talks in Geneva under which the two sides never met - Pakistan does not recognize the Karmal regime - moved rapidly over the ground that an agreement would cover, and led to euphoric statements about the likely success of the talks.

Señor Cordóvez was quoted as saying the agreement was 95 per cent completed and Mr Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, was making distinctly optimistic noises.

So the disappointment after the most recent round of talks in Geneva last month has been correspondingly greater.

It had been expected that some kind of agreement could have been reached on international guarantees for the settlement and for a schedule, but all that was managed was an agreement to consult the refugees about their wishes.

Señor Cordóvez will shortly embark on a shuttle to resolve the method of this consultation, flying between Kabul and

Islamabad, with occasional stops in Tehran.

On the principal issues there was no yielding. The Russians are insisting, through their protégés in Kabul, that the United States should guarantee the non-interference clauses. Pakistan wishes to have all five permanent members of the UN Security Council guarantee the agreement.

The problem is capable of resolution however, and Señor Cordóvez will also be having consultations with Moscow and Washington about it.

The last American word on the subject was that they could not be expected to guarantee something they had not seen. That observation led to the belief that the United States was not anxious for a speedy settlement, hoping there was more mileage in the propaganda defeat being inflicted on the Soviet Union and in the expectation that the guerrilla war would bleed the Russians of men and material, and of the drive to pursue an aggressive policy elsewhere.

But in talks between Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State and Mr Yaqub Khan early this month the United States expressed full support for the negotiations.

But in the end, Pakistani officials insist nothing can be guaranteed, nothing can be planned for the return of the refugees, and there can be no substantial discussions on the mechanics of a withdrawal until there is some indication from the Russian side of what sort of period they have in mind, over which they will withdraw their forces.

Vikings fail to get their Soviet visa

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

The Soviet Union has done something no one and nothing else was ever able to do. It has stopped the Vikings.

A modern re-creation of a Viking ship has been refused permission to enter Soviet territory as part of a planned 5,000-mile voyage to the Black Sea.

The latter-day Vikings - a team of 12 Swedish archaeologists from the Baltic island of Gotland - are now marooned in Poland on Lake Zegrze. From here they were to continue via the River Bug into Russia... until Soviet officials said "niel".

The voyage was undertaken to prove that it was possible for the Vikings to travel a thousand years ago to travel great distances by inland waterways, rolling their boats on logs from one river or lake to another to reach their destination.

It started four weeks ago from the Gotland capital, Visby. After crossing the Baltic the little wooden ship sailed gaily up the River Wisla to Lake Zegrze, cheered on by amazed Polish peasants.

The expedition's leader, Professor Erik Nylén, head of the state archive for Gotland, organized the voyage after a Norwegian historian claimed it



was Vikings from the Swedish mainland, not Gotland, that had reached the Black Sea.

"That really made me mad", he said.

Faced with the Soviet Union's refusal, despite a plea from the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, Professor Nylén now plans to anchor in the Polish town of Drobiczka.

The boat will stay there until spring 1984 while its crew returns home by modern transport. Professor Nylén hopes that by then Soviet attitudes, as well as the ice on the Zegrze, will have thawed.

Peace rally in East Germany draws 100,000

Dresden (AP) - Church leaders declared their support for East German pacifists here yesterday as more than 100,000 people gathered in the biggest Lutheran rally in this country since 1954.

The crowd heard pleas for understanding and reconciliation and against hatred and hostility during the day of speeches by the Right Rev Johannes Hempel, Lutheran Bishop of Saxony, and others.

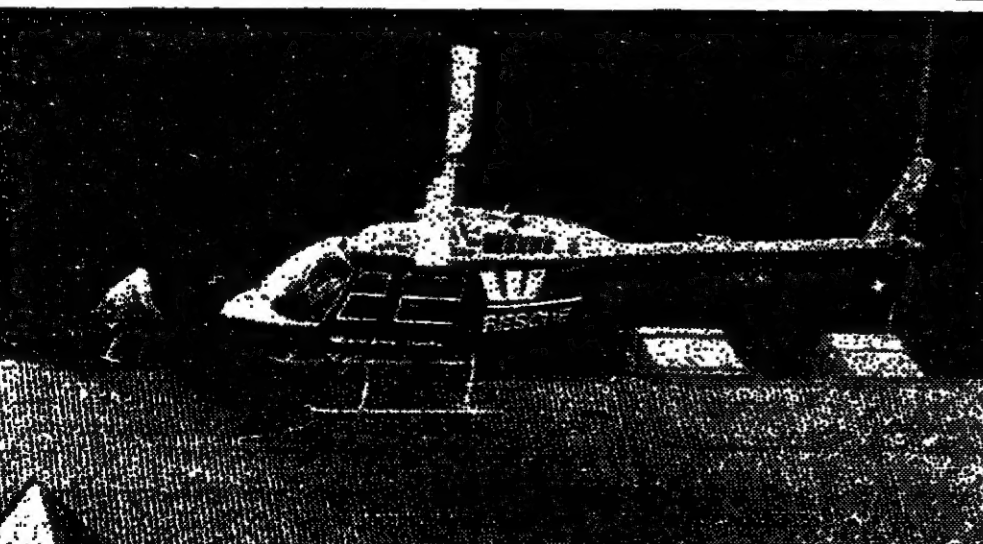
The church said they would continue supporting young East Germans who refused induction into the armed services, a crime punishable by jail.

The bishop said Christians must reject the Leninist principle of just and unjust wars in light of today's atomic weapons. The Church would never bless weaponry, he said.

The Dresden Church Day was the sixth in a series this year. The rallies conclude next month at Wittenberg, where Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the palace church in the sixteenth century.

One of the earlier church rallies was at Eisleben, where Luther was born 500 years ago. There yesterday's rally, several hundred youths crowded the Church of Christ to ask questions of church leaders.

Several of the questions concerned the independent peace movement at Jena and Herr Roland Jahn, who was forcefully expelled last month and now lives in West Berlin. There were also questions about the arrest in June of Herr Lothar Rochau, the East German youth deacon.



Rooftop rescue: A helicopter straddles the roof of a cheese factory between Blenheim and Pictou in New Zealand's South Island to rescue people trapped by floods.

King Hassan adamant on the Sahara

From Godfrey Morrison, Rabat

For the sake of national unity King Hassan of Morocco has postponed a general election planned for September until after a referendum on the future of the Western Sahara, due by the end of the year.

King Hassan said that the Polisario guerrillas, who for seven years have fought to make the territory an independent state, should understand that even in the unlikely event of the referendum going in their favour, "nothing will oblige us to offer our Sahara on a plate... to a group of mercenaries."

This uncompromising, regal blast came in a speech of Friday marking King Hassan's fifty-

fourth birthday, just a few hours after the arrival in Morocco of an Organization of African Unity delegation which has come to discuss the means for carrying out the OAU-sponsored referendum.

The Western Sahara has been a diplomatic millstone around the neck of the OAU with the issue paralysing the organization throughout last year because of a bitter split between the continent's "radicals" and "moderates".

The king's hard line, amounting now to a flat refusal to give up the territory in any circumstances, will hardly ease the task of the OAU mission.

But the king's uncompromising attitude came as no surprise to observers here, many of whom doubt whether he could survive any compromise on the issue, given Moroccan belief that the retention of the territory is a matter of national honour. It is just about the only thing on which all the political parties are agreed.

Within the territory itself the military situation now amounts to a goal-less draw, with the Moroccan in full control of the most densely populated part around the capital. But the Polisario guerrillas roam at will over the arid wastes of most of the rest of the formerly Spanish-ruled territory.

Gulf oil slick threatens survival of wildlife

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The World Wildlife Fund has recorded abnormally large numbers of dead dolphins, dolphins, turtles, fish, sea snakes and birds in the Gulf - apparently victims of the oil that has flowed unimpeded into the sea since February because of the Iran-Iraq war.

Helicopter surveys along the eastern shores have logged 53 dead dolphins, or sea cows - the rare marine mammals that suckle their young and are generally thought to be the origin of the mermaid myth. It is feared that the entire Gulf

population of dolphins may have perished.

Small commercial fishing in the Gulf has been stopped by government decree, paralysing a shrimp industry that has produced more than 2,500 tons a year.

The damage is so profound and long lasting, the WWF says in its latest newsletter, that it threatens the viability of the Gulf as a habitat for living creatures, among them the winter migrating birds such as flamingos, plovers, snipe and curlews.

The Gulf is 600 miles long, less than 200 miles wide, and

the average depth is only 115 ft.

The three damaged oil wells, one struck accidentally by a ship and the others hit by Iraqi missiles, in Iran's Nowruz offshore field have been spilling about 1,200 barrels of crude oil a day.

The latest indication from the Kuwait regional office of the UN Environment Programme is that after months of negotiation only two of 14 points in a proposed agreement between the Gulf's eight littoral states have been accepted by Iraq and Iran.

The WWF reports spec-

ulation that sealife is being exterminated by high concentrations of toxic hydrogen sulphide from the underwater wells mixing with the seawater, which is then poisonous also to the coral reefs, mangrove swamps and shallow waters where shrimp and fish breed.

According to one estimate, even if the spills were stopped now, and the most effective measures deployed over three to six months to neutralize or remove the oil, it could take 30 years to restore the marine environment.

The newsletter says that increasingly the desalination

plants for Saudi Arabia, consuming such as Al Jubayl and Al Khobar, are having to either shut down or curtail their operations. Other plants from Kuwait to Oman, producing nearly a billion litres of fresh water daily, are also threatened.

The WWF also mentions a "growing suspicion" that tankers and coastal industries are taking advantage of the Nowruz disaster to cut costs by dumping their petroleum wastes and other toxic by-products straight into the sea.

Leading article, page 11

Iran closes French consulate

Tehran (Reuters) - Iran closed the French consulate in the town of Isfahan and the French Cultural Institute in Iran in retaliation for what it said was France's involvement in the hijack of an Iranian airliner last week.

The Boeing 747, with 350 passengers, was seized by six men during a domestic flight to Tehran on Wednesday and then forced to fly to Kuwait and then Paris. The hijackers have been charged with air piracy in a French court.

France has rejected an Iranian request for their extradition and French officials said they would probably be granted asylum.

Death sentence on seaman

Port of Spain - Allan Henry, a Guyanese seaman, was sentenced to death here for the murder of Michael Crocker, an English Yachtsman. Mr Crocker was strangled in January last year on board his yacht with a round-the-world trip with his wife and two English friends. There is some doubt about whether the convicted man would hang if his appeal is unsuccessful. Although Trinidad and Tobago has not formally abolished hanging, the last execution was in 1979.

Jesuit superior to be elected

Rome (AP) - The Jesuits are to elect a new superior at a general congregation that begins on September 1.

In an unusual move two years ago, the Pope appointed Father Paolo Dezza as the Jesuit superior after the illness of Father Pedro Arrupe. The Pope warned the order to stay out of politics in March 1982 but later agreed to let them replace his personal representative by vote.

Waste protest

Madrid (Reuters) - Spanish ecology groups launched a weekend of protest against British plans to dump radioactive waste at sea off the northern region of Galicia.

Teacher jailed

Peking (AFP) - Ye Lifa, aged 68, a Shanghai teacher, has been sentenced to 10 years in prison for spying for a foreign country, the New China news agency reported.

Triple collision

Clermont-Ferrand (Reuters) - Thirty elderly people were injured, two critically, when their coach collided with a cattle lorry and a car near the central French town of Pardoux.

Sword fight

Delhi (AP) - Two people were reported killed in a clash between two groups of militant Sikhs armed with swords, spears and guns in the northern city of Chandigarh.

Granted entry

Stockholm - Miss Viktoria Mullova, aged 23, the soviet violinist and her piano accompanist, Mr Vahang Sordanian, aged 40, who fled to Sweden while on a concert tour of Finland, flew to New York after being granted political asylum in the US.

Footprint clue

Colombo (Reuters) - Sri Lankan police will take footprints of suspected criminals as well as fingerprints in future. Most criminals in Sri Lanka do not wear shoes.

Police killed

Lima (Reuters) About 50 Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas killed 12 civil guards in an attack on police headquarters in a remote Andean village in Abancay province.

Nigeria ban

Lagos (Reuters) - Police in the Nigerian state of Oyo have banned public meetings for 14 days after the deaths of six people in a clash between supporters of rival political parties.



In charge: Lebanese troops using a French tank take over the Israeli Army position at Monteverde.

Mitterrand 'confesses' errors

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Was it a deliberate leak by President Mitterrand in an attempt to change his public image, or was it a question of unscrupulous or journalist breaking the rules of off-the-record comments never intended for publication?

Whatever the answer, what has been labelled "the amazing confession of the President" has caused a considerable stir here. The "confessions" are published in the current edition of *Tempsloire Chrétien* in an article by Philippe Bauchard, the respected economist adviser to Europe 1 radio and contributor to *L'Expansion* magazine.

He says they were gleaned in a series of conversations with the President in preparation for the Europe 1 breakfast-time radio interview with Mitterrand a fortnight ago.

N. Bauchard, claims that Mitterrand admitted that he was wrong not to have devalued the franc as soon as he came to power in 1981; instead of waiting until June, 1982.

"Only Jobert (the former Trade Minister) encouraged me to take that course. In a confused way, I felt that he was right, but Mauroy (the Prime Minister) and Delors (the Finance Minister) persuaded me of the opposite, and Rocard (now Minister for Agriculture and the 'darling' of the Socialist right) did not say anything... Mitterrand is quoted as saying:

"From as early as spring, 1982, I was advocating a policy of economic rigour. 'Before the Versailles summit, I had decided to pursue the policy that is currently in force. But unfortunately, the Germans were not ready. I had to wait several days and hold a press conference which was considered euphoric in June, 1982. Everyone was caught out...'

The franc was devalued two days later, and the first austerity measures introduced. Mitterrand was fiercely criticized at the time for having given the

impression at his press conference that all was well.

Explaining the reasons for the policy of economic growth and social reform pursued during his first year in office, Mitterrand is reported to have said, "I was carried away by victory, we were intoxicated. Everyone - the OECD experts, my advisers, the economic experts, the journalists, you yourself - announced the return to world economic growth in 1983."

"Quite honestly, I lacked the qualities of evaluation needed to affirm that they were wrong. It is understood that M. Delors was among those who were against the introduction in June, 1982, of the total wage and price freeze."

"We were dreaming a bit, it is true, in 1981. We underestimated the length of the international crisis, just as I overestimated the goodwill of the Americans. I no longer expect anything from Reagan", he added.

Holland's new cruise liner sails for US

From Robert Schall, Amsterdam

The Nieuw Amsterdam, the third flag ship of the Holland American Line of that name, left Le Harve yesterday on her twice-postponed maiden voyage her first crossing of the Atlantic will probably also be her last.

The 34,000-ton vessel will cater to American Cruise passengers sailing from San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The launching ceremony was performed on Saturday in Le Harve by Princess Margriet, the younger sister of Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands.

Pope's would-be killer denies link with kidnap

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Protests have promptly followed statements by Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish terrorist serving life imprisonment here for his attempt on the Pope's life, in which he accused Bulgarians of complicity in the plot and named the KGB as the organizers.

The circumstances of his latest assertion were bizarre. He had asked to give investigators his views on allegations that a 15-year-old girl, Emanuela Orlandi, had been taken as hostage, to be exchanged for Agca. She has been missing from her house in the Vatican for nearly three weeks.

Nothing is known about the people holding her, but her release has been offered in a series of anonymous telephone calls in return for the freeing of Agca. Some of the calls have been made to the family and to the Vatican.

Agca claims he told the police that he had no connexion, direct or indirect, with the kidnapping of the girl and refused any such exchange, adding his own personal appeal to the kidnappers to release her. He said he had repented of his attempt to kill the Pope in St

Peter's Square on May 13, 1981 and he repeated his accusation against Mr Serghiey Antonov, an official of the Bulgarian airline in Rome, who has been held since November after Agca first named him as an accomplice.

Agca was allowed to say all this on Friday to journalists in the courtyard at police headquarters. It is puzzling that he was taken there at all, when he could much more easily have been interrogated in prison, as had happened on several earlier occasions.

The Rome newspaper *Il Messaggero* unequivocally stated that the investigators wanted "to give ample publicity to Agca's position". Mr Antonov's lawyers have protested and an official investigation has been ordered.

● MOSCOW: The Russians flatly denied over the weekend that they had anything to do with the abortive assassination, saying there was incontrovertible evidence that no Communist countries were involved in the plot, Michael Binyon writes. Tass said reports quoting Agca were part of an American crusade against Communist countries.

New Indian Bill to crack down on dowry crime

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

The Indian Government is planning to bring in legislation to deal with the rising scandal of dowry deaths.

Almost daily reports of the fiery deaths of young married women who have either been murdered or driven to suicide by their husbands or in-laws in pursuit of more money as dowry have shocked newspaper readers here and aroused international protest.

The new Bill will incorporate a provision in the Indian penal code punishing those who cause mental or physical cruelty or who harass women in the first seven years of their marriage.

Under a change in the evidence law which will also be introduced, the courts can presume harassment in a suicide case unless it is disproved by proper evidence.

High rate seen as social threat 950,000 divorces a year in Russia

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

A Soviet sociologist has disclosed that there are almost a million divorces a year in the Soviet Union. And asked whether marriage was not in danger of dying out.

Mr Yuri Ryurikov said in a *Pravda* article at the weekend that between 2.6 million and 2.8 million people got married each year, but the divorce rate was now close to 950,000. Unless people learned to take a more responsible attitude to family life, the family as a unit was doomed.

The high divorce rate - which in European Russia is running close to 50 per cent - took a heavy social toll. Every fourth adult lives alone, usually because divorced, and there were millions of lonely people. Millions of children grew up without a father, and the number of family quarrels was increasing.

The *Pravda* article blamed the weakening of traditional

family bonds, such as reliance on one breadwinner and a general irresponsible attitude to marriage, especially among youth. He also said the growing materialism put a strain on family relations.

People nowadays tended to expect too much from marriage without being prepared to contribute anything themselves. In a comment clearly aimed at Soviet men, whose chauvinist attitude has been frequently attacked in the press, the article said young people should be taught to regard marriage as an equal partnership.

The authorities are concerned by growing alcoholism among Soviet youth and have blamed this on the lack of firm control at home. Sociologists have also spoken of the dangers of children becoming egoistic, especially when brought up as only children without a father.

The *pravda* article insisted that the family had to remain the basic socializing unit which taught children values and provided a firm base for happiness between parents. It was possible to bring up children without a father, but the psychological role of the complete family was more important than ever before.

"As the rhythm of life increases and the dangers of nervous strain, so the family is of ever greater importance to people as a rest home for their nerves and an oasis for their souls," the article said.

It spoke of official measures now being taken to strengthen marriage and prevent its breakdown. These include marriage guidance services, a stepped-up campaign against male alcoholism, sex education in schools and sex counselling to help couples in difficulties.

Chile jails three leaders of main opposition party on eve of protest

Santiago (AP, Reuters) - A judge sent the president and two other leaders of Chile's largest opposition party to jail on Saturday on suspicion of organizing a protest against the military regime.

Scores of Christian Democratic activists shouted "Liberty, liberty" in the halls of the Supreme Court building as police ushered their party's leaders to an armoured prison van after a five-and-a-half-hour hearing before Judge Arnaldo Dreys.

At the Government's request, the judge had called Señor Gabriel Valdés, the party president, Señor José Degregorio, its secretary-general, and Señor Jorge Lavandero, a former senator, to question them in the case of two young Christian Democratic activists jailed since last Monday night.

The two activists had been seized at a Santiago print shop while picking up 700,000 leaflets urging Chileans to take part in a peaceful one-day protest tomorrow against President Augusto Pinochet's authoritarian rule. They were charged with threatening state security.

After the hearing, Señor Ambrosio Rodríguez, state prosecutor, announced that the judge had ordered the party leaders to be held incommunicado "on suspicion of participating in the events being investigated". The judge has five days to decide whether to bring charges against them.

The jailings were an important step in a crackdown on the broad-based political and trade union movement that organized two massive one-day demonstrations on May 11 and June

14, the biggest since General Pinochet seized power in 1973.

Señor Valdés, aged 64, a former Foreign Minister, smiled as police led him from the courtroom, and Señor Lavandero flashed a V-sign. Party activists said the jailings would fuel tomorrow's third "day of national protest".

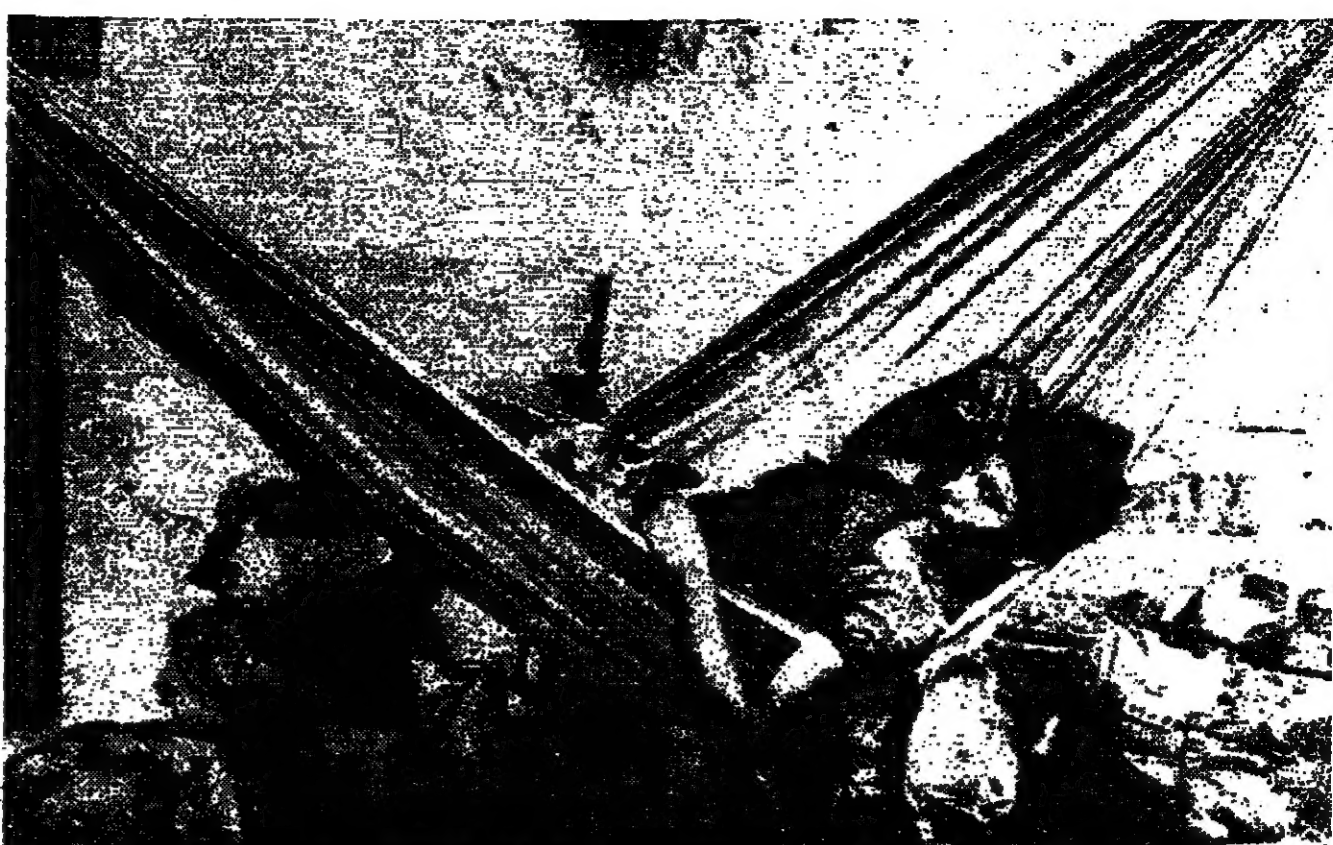
On Friday, armed men raided the headquarters of a national group that has spearheaded recent protests and abducted a number of people.

The National Union Coordinating Group is the most radical of five labour organizations involved in the demonstrations.

Señor Arturo Valdés, a union official, said that two dozen men, carrying machine guns and dressed in civilian clothes, arrived in unmarked cars and destroyed furniture and took away office equipment. They did not identify themselves but appeared to be secret police.

The military Government has meanwhile authorized 99 more exiles to return to the country, including Señor Remán Fuentes, a former president of the Christian Democratic Party, and Señor Cesar Godoy, aged 82, a former Communist member of Congress.

● BONN: West Germany's Christian Democrats yesterday protested to the Chilean Government about the arrest in Santiago. (Reuters reports).



At ease: A Salvadorean soldier taking a siesta. Troops are supporting a US-backed civic action programme.

Prisoners 'killed by Salvadorean guerrillas'

Nueva Granada, El Salvador (AP) - Five out of 16 people killed in a guerrilla attack on Friday were tied up and shot, inhabitants of this town 62 miles east of the capital said.

The Defence Ministry reported that 12 civil defence guards were killed, but residents said that four civilians also died in the attack. They said that five of the civil defence guards ran out of ammunition and surrendered.

Radio Venceremos, mouthpiece of the left-wing rebels, claimed that the guerrillas killed eight members of a paramilitary death squad in the attack. Reports of guerrillas executing their captives have increased in El Salvador in recent months, but have been impossible to verify independently.

Residents said they believed that about 10 guerrillas died in the attack. Leaflets left behind by rebels, estimated to number

250, were signed by the Popular Liberation Forces.

Two journalists - Mr Mark Fazlollah, aged 34, an American who freelances for the *Daily Telegraph*, and Mr Steve Copp, aged 30, who works for BBC radio, were arrested by soldiers near San Agustín, 61 miles east of San Salvador, on Friday.

They were interrogated and then released.

● SAN JOSE: Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's special Central American envoy, may have met representatives of the Salvadorean guerrillas in a house "50 minutes from San José", Señor Fernando Volio, the Costa Rican Foreign Minister, said on Saturday.

He gave no further details, but sources said that two leaders of El Salvador's Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR), Señor Rubén Zamora and Señor Guillermo Ungo, had been waiting for Mr Stone.

Glomp hits out at 'superficial' press

Rome (AP) - Cardinal Jozef Glomp, the Polish Primate, criticized the press yesterday for political speculation during the Pope's trip to his homeland and said that foreigners should not "stick their noses" into Poland's affairs.

"The world of political journalism, of speculation, again showed itself to be superficial", he said during a Mass at the Polish church of St Stanislaw.

Cardinal Glomp said that during the Pope's visit "We became aware that things are not that bad because we showed a great readiness in organizing the visit of the Holy Father on a national level".

● MOSCOW: The Soviet Union has appointed Mr Aleksandra Akysanov, former Prime Minister of Byelorussia, its new Ambassador to Poland. (Reuters reports).

Mr Akysanov takes over from Mr Boris Arisov, who arrived in Warsaw in 1978.

In Warsaw, Poles were given a new sign that martial law is to be lifted with a report that the executive committee of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (Pront) had appealed to the Sejm (Parliament) and the Government "to lift martial law and pass legislation enabling a return to civic life for those charged with violation of martial law regulations, and those still in hiding".

Economic ills blamed in Central America

From Jeremy Taylor, Port of Spain

The turmoil in Central America is not due to East-West ideological rivalry but to "deep-seated social and economic ills", leaders of the 13 Caribbean Community (Caricom) states, declared at the end of a five-day summit in Port of Spain.

The summit in the Trinidad and Tobago capital called for an end to foreign intervention in Central America, and the training of mercenaries and an end to border conflicts, and supported the attempt of the Contadora group to find a peaceful solution.

The Caribbean leaders also renewed their support for Guyana in its border dispute with Venezuela and deplored Guatemala's refusal to abandon its "unfounded" claim to part of Belize.

On economic issues, the summit which ended on Friday, found renewed confidence and optimism in the Caricom group, which was battered by trade and currency conflicts for much of the year.

As well as admitting the Bahamas as Caricom's thirteenth member, appointing as secretary general the Jamaican economist, Mr Roderick Rattray, and agreeing on a pro-

gramme of all summit meetings, the conference agreed on a funding and restructuring scheme for the almost bankrupt University of the West Indies and revived the Caricom multilateral clearing facility, suspended since April after Guyana ran up large debts.

The summit called on the Reagan Administration to open its Caribbean Basin initiative to all Caricom members - at present Guyana and Grenada are effectively excluded - and to remove objections to steel exports into the US from Trinidad and Tobago.

It adopted elaborate strategies for decreasing the region's dependence on imported food, for rationalizing regional energy supplies and for nudging member states into backing a single regional air carrier.

Ideological conflict still threatens the fragile community, however. At the start of the summit Mr Edward Seaga the pro-American Jamaican Prime Minister, attacked revolutionary Grenada, sparking off a slanging match that lasted all week.

Grenada blocked Mrs Seaga's move to enlarge Caricom by admitting the Spanish-speaking Dominican Republic.

Chinese girl hopes to marry envoy

Peking (AFP) - Miss Li Shuang, the Chinese artist just freed after serving nearly two years in a labour camp for living with a French diplomat, said yesterday she hoped to marry as soon as possible.

Miss Li, aged 26, told Agence-France Presse that she wanted her marriage to M Emmanuel Bellefroid, formerly of the French Embassy in Peking and now in Paris, to be in accordance with Chinese law.

She was arrested in September, 1981, at the compound for foreigners where she was living with M Bellefroid, aged 35. She was sentenced by the police, without trial, to two years of "re-education through labour" for immoral conduct, notably for having lived with her fiancé.

Paler and thinner but looking healthy, Miss Li said she was overjoyed at being released on Friday, having had her sentence shortened by two months.

Chinese authorities also accused Miss Li of "selling her soul" to a foreigner and M Bellefroid of having financed and supported dissident movements.

Dressed in a pink traditional Chinese-style smock, Miss Li said she wanted a rest before making any plans. She is an abstract artist, and said she was looking forward to getting back to painting.



Miss Li: Freed after two years' detention

Miss Li was detained at Liang Xiang, 18 miles south-west of Peking, where she read newspapers, watched television and knitted.

● PARIS: M Bellefroid said he was "mad with joy" at the news of her release, and hoped to marry her as soon as possible (Diana Geddes writes).

Miss Li's arrest cast a pall over relations between China and the newly-elected French Socialist Government. Her release, two months after President Mitterrand's first official visit to China, is seen as part of a series of measures to improve relations.

The French Government has declined to make any comment, save to say that it "could not be but pleased" by her release.

Hungarian reshuffle may point to further changes

Budapest (AFP) - More top level changes may be on the way in Hungary after the appointment of a new Foreign Minister, and speculation has been revived that Mr Gyorgy Lazar, the Prime Minister, will step down for health reasons.

It has been known for at least two years that Mr Frigyes Fula, aged 62, Foreign Minister since 1973, had asked to be relieved of his post for personal reasons. But the choice last week of Mr Peter Varkonyi, aged 52, as his successor came as a surprise to political observers here.

Only last year Mr Varkonyi was appointed secretary for international affairs on the party Central Committee, and reshuffles in the upper reaches of the party usually do not happen so quickly in eastern bloc countries.

Observers also note that the post Mr Varkonyi left is considered to rank higher than his new appointment.

They say the move appears to be a political compromise to bolster the position of Mr Janos Kadar, the party leader, of

whom Mr Varkonyi is known to be a close associate. But the observers do not believe that the move will weaken Mr Varkonyi's position.

Furthermore, Mr Markonyi's replacement as secretary for international affairs on the Central Committee is Mr Matyas Szuros, aged 50, former head of the international section.

Mr Szuros, described as a man cast in the Soviet mould, worked under Mr Varkonyi, and observers believe it unlikely that he will now be in a position of greater power over his former superior.

The reshuffle is unlikely to bring any change in Hungarian foreign policy.

Other changes announced were the appointment of Mr Mihaly Kornidasz, head of the Committee's department of science, education and culture, to head of Hungarian television, and General Sandor Racz as deputy Defence Minister after the retirement of General Pal Kovacs.

FROM THE HALIFAX

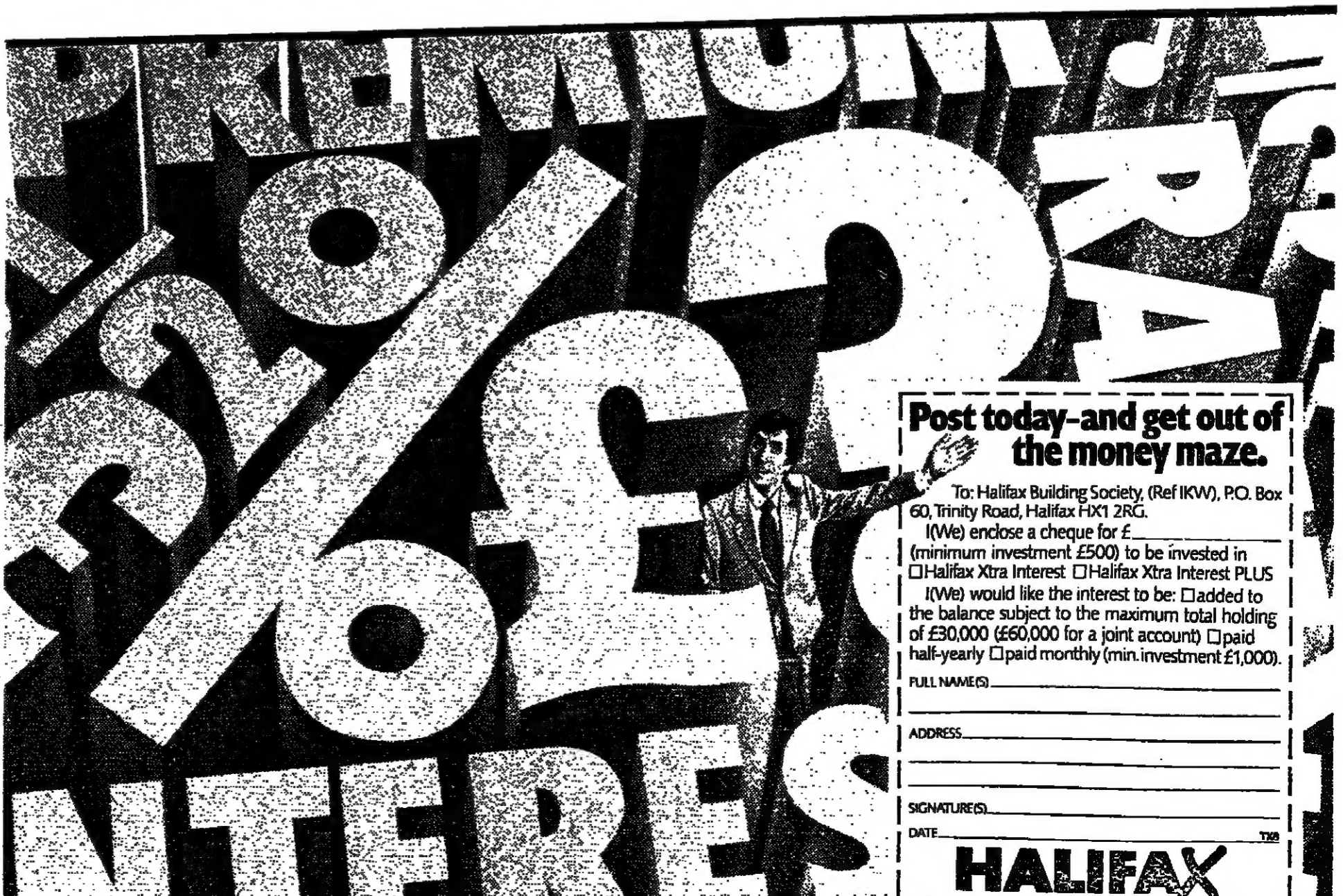
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SPECTRUM

It is 19 years since Omar Sharif galloped across the world's screens in *Lawrence of Arabia*. Next month, he returns to the stage after driving a generation of women frantic and men to drink. 'I think I started out with an enormous amount of talent', he says. 'Now I am going to find out whether I have totally wasted it or not'.

Old Brown Eyes is back

By Sally Brompton

After a quarter of a century spent playing the kind of film roles that have driven women frantic and men to drink, Omar Sharif is returning to his first love: the stage. And for his reappearance on the boards, the Egyptian actor has picked the Chichester Festival Theatre, where next month he opens in Terence Rattigan's *The Sleeping Prince*, playing Prince Regent of Carpathia, the character immortalized by Laurence Olivier in the film *The Prince and the Showgirl*.

After a movie career more memorable for his much-acclaimed liquid brown eyes than for his acting ability, it would seem an unnecessary risk for a performer who has been a millionaire several times over and can still command £500,000 or so for three weeks' filming. Omar Sharif is well aware of the dangers but explains: 'I think I started out with an enormous amount of talent. Now I'm going to find out whether I've totally wasted it or not.'

It is 19 years since he first galloped across the world's movie screens astride a camel in *Lawrence of Arabia*. *Dr Zhivago* and *Funny Girl* followed, confirming a buccaneering image which was then exploited in a string of highly forgettable films.

Sharif is the first to acknowledge their mediocrity. 'I've played a lot of bad parts because they were all I was offered. And I needed the money. Now I've arrived at the point in my life where I want to work for pleasure.'

It is a luxury he admits he can afford only by accepting the occasional film part to subsidize his extravagant lifestyle. 'I am not rich', he says, 'but I live like someone who is very rich indeed'. He has gambled away several fortunes in his lifetime, because, he claims, of the intense boredom, frustration and loneliness involved in making an honest bob or two.

'If you lived quite alone in hotel rooms, moving from one country to

another for 15 years, it would occur to you that you needed something in your life. I needed to do something very exciting' is how he explains his outlook.

Now that he works less and leads a more regular life, he finds he no longer craves the exhilaration of the gaming tables. But the gambler's spirit remains. Hence Chichester.

He has brought his housekeeper over from Paris to look after him in the elegant town house that is costing him more in rent than the few hundred pounds a week he is earning at the theatre. His housekeeper is a vital part of his bachelor life. After 17 years together, he says of her: 'She is everything the perfect wife should be, without the problems.'

At 51, Sharif is still as sleek as one of his own thoroughbred racehorses, and the much-chronicled charm is greatly in evidence. So is the courtesy. His manners are as immaculate as his carefully casual navy slacks and gleaming white open-necked shirt.

He approached middle age with trepidation. 'Fifty is a frightening sum of years; the beginning of old age. Fifty is a turning point. I think it's kind of sad', he said, and spent his fiftieth birthday sitting alone in his Paris flat. He hates celebrations at the best of times. 'I don't like parties. I loathe Christmas and the New Year. All those celebrations are family things.'

His marriage, to Faten Hamama, the Middle East's most famous actress, lasted 10 years before falling apart when he became a Hollywood star. Their only son is grown up and lives in Canada. Sharif insists that the marriage was very happy and that it was just their careers that came between them. 'Just think of it... I was married at 21, an actor, surrounded by pretty girls, and I never once cheated on my wife. Of all my achievements in life, I think that is what I'm most proud of.'



Sharif in middle age. 'I really am a mother's boy. And very lazy'

Since the parting, speculation about his love life has dominated tabloid newspapers the world over. It has, says Sharif, been greatly exaggerated. 'Contrary to what people think, I haven't had a lot of different girlfriends. I've gone out now and then with a girl because you have to. You can't live totally alone. I've had very short relationships, sexual relationships, but no more than anyone else. Many fewer, in fact. All my friends have more girls than I've ever had.'

He has nothing against remarriage - 'although it's a bit late in the day' - but after 20 years he has grown accustomed to living alone. 'I'm very independent now; I'm not sure I'd be able to live with someone else again.'

The only son of a wealthy timber merchant, he was brought up in Cairo, where he had an 'extraordinarily nice' childhood. He attended Victoria College, the finest school in the Middle East, along with such diverse embryonic celebrities as King Hussein and Adnan Khashoggi. 'If they wanted to', he says, 'the people who went to my school could run the world'. He recollects being good at everything: a gifted scholar, captain of football and cricket, president of the debating and dramatic societies and head boy.

It was acting, however, that fired his ambition, spurred on by a dotting mother who was determined that her son would become a star. Even today he is closer to his mother than to any other person.

'I really am a mother's boy. I adore her and she adores me. She's not just proud of me - she faints when she sees me. She gets hysterical. If she were here now she'd want me to sit on her knee.'

A widow now, she lives in Spain but mother and son talk to each other on the telephone constantly.

'She asks my advice about everything. Everything. Even when my father was alive I was always head of the family and they have always all

asked my advice and done exactly what I say.'

Could such maternal devotion have affected his relationship with other women? He considers the question. 'It might have done', he admits.

In the past Sharif has named actresses Barbra Streisand and Anouk Aimée as the objects of his affection, adding, curiously: 'To have an affair with someone doesn't mean you have to go to bed with them.' Now he confesses: 'I've been in love four times in my life, each time to a famous actress. But I wouldn't say I actually enjoyed it because on each occasion I knew it wouldn't last. Actors and actresses are married to their careers first. Acting is too important to allow you to love someone at the same time.'

The main problem, he says, is that he never meets any 'normal' women. 'I only ever meet actresses and socialites. I'd love to meet a nice secretary like other men do.' He added as an afterthought: 'An intelligent one; not some silly girl.'

Another hazard, it seems, is his reputation as a womanizer. When women first meet him they are immediately on their guard, even hostile. 'It takes such a long time to get all that stuff out of their minds, just to start on a normal basis like other fellows, and I never know whether it's going to be worth it.'

Anyway, he is much more comfortable in the company of men. All his friends are men. 'I find men very silly, actually, but I like their silliness. The child in me wants other children to play with.'

It is what he describes as play that accounts for the main part of Omar Sharif's life. His passions are playing bridge, racing his stable of horses and dining out. The reason he spent so much time learning bridge to international standard, he insists, was to avoid working. 'I'm very lazy.'

He has just returned from Cairo where, by popular demand, he made a television film in Arabic. 'The people there obviously love me dearly and every time I went back they asked me to make a film especially for them. I chose a story of a higher standard than they're used to, to try to bring some culture into their homes.'

After staying away from his homeland for many years, during the Nasser regime, he now goes back regularly.

Now he enjoys the indulgence of just sitting around and talking with his own countrymen. 'I find it very difficult to make real friends in the West because I'm very sentimental and melodramatic in my relationships and western people are very cold fish. They don't like you to hug and kiss them.'

Even women, apparently, get overwhelmed by his affection. 'I'm very demonstrative with women, very emotional. I'm like a little dog, actually. But it's not enough. They need other things as well.' He admires women enormously, their intelligence, their strength, their resilience... but as for liking them - well, he is not too sure about that.

In any event, his entire attention for the time being is focused on the demanding role of Prince Regent of Carpathia. Just learning the lines is a hard task after so many years of shooting a take at a time.

If his performance at Chichester is successful he would like to play Othello. 'It's a part I like and I think that for once a Moor should play the Moor.' His only other ambition is to breed a Derby winner.

Those pipe-dreams apart, Omar Sharif never thinks about the future and never worries about the past. 'I don't want to know too much about myself. I face problems when they come. I've improvised every day of my life.'

A brief pause, then he adds: 'Maybe if I hadn't I'd be a better actor.'

moreover...
Miles Kington

Watch your cruising speed...

Last Wednesday, in the middle of the night, I was sitting in a car near Ludlow watching 2ft of floodwater swirl round my car and it occurred to me yet again that we British are always taken completely unawares by conditions like these, for all the world as if we had never done any underwater motoring before in our lives.

So today I am going to answer the most common questions asked about this pretty but absorbing pastime. Cut this column out and keep it in your glove compartment. On second thoughts, cut it out and paste it to the roof above the driver's seat.

How do I know when I have hit flood water?

The first thing you will notice, especially at night, is a great pillar of water rising on either side of your car. Momentarily you will have childhood memories of those funfair big dippers which shot down a ramp and hit a tank of water at 30 mph. If you cannot remember your childhood, you will probably have memories of going in a channel ferry and hitting a very big wave. If by now the car has come to a standstill, you will get out to have a look. A moment later you will be sorry you did so.

What should I do if the car refuses to move through the water?

Rather than sit in your seat and wait to be drowned, it is best to manoeuvre yourself through the window and on to the roof. This can be tricky: and it's best to practise at home before you set out. Even when on the roof you are, don't forget, still legally in charge of the car and must wear a seat belt. The average modern belt is long enough to reach to the roof.

What if I'm parked illegally?

Although this has never been tested in a court of law, parking regulations in Britain are thought to apply only to motoring on land. There are no regulations as far as I know against parking in a navigable river. Yellow lines are probably invalid below water, as well as being impossible to see. But remember that the laws of the sea will apply to your car, which is now theoretically an ocean-going vessel.

Will I have to hoist a flag or something?

No, no. Navigation lights will be quite enough - red on the passenger side, green on the driver's side and a white light on top of the wireless aerial. Cars give way to lorries, and company cars should, as a matter of courtesy give way to private cars. Salvage laws also come into operation, and if you find an abandoned car it is theoretically, while in water, all yours for the taking.

How can I go about getting help?

The first people to come by will almost certainly be a TV outside broadcast van, getting pictures for the local news. Refuse all offers of help from them. All they want to do is get you into deeper water for a better picture. And before they start filming, haggle about money with them. This is the only language they understand. Try asking them for a form which will allow you to claim against the car as overnight accommodation. If anyone else comes past, just ask them to pull you to dry or at least exposed ground. You may have to go through certain simple Customs formalities, but as long as you started your journey in Britain and are not carrying drugs you should be all right.

Can the driver of an underwater car have the power, like ships' captains, to marry passengers on board?

Only if you are a vicar. It is a total myth about ships' captains. But a brief shipboard romance can do no harm and will while away the time until the waters recede.

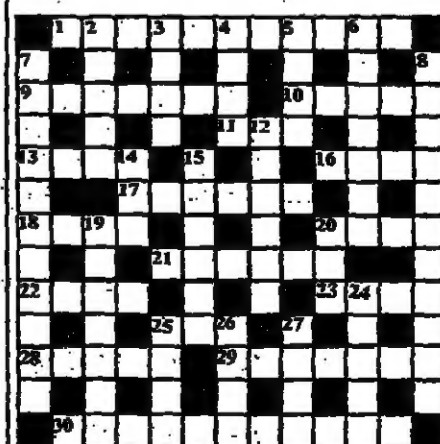
Is there nothing else I can do to get help?

Yes. Send forth a dove on the face of the waters.

What if it comes back empty handed, so to speak?

Then the floods in Britain are very much worse than you first thought.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 100)



- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Finish (11) | 2 Motivate (5) |
| 3 Set pod (7) | 3 Friend (4) |
| 4 Hidden place (5) | 4 Christmas (4) |
| 5 Sixth note (3) | 5 Tickle (4) |
| 6 Unsightly (4) | 6 Affected charm (7) |
| 7 Start (4) | 7 Investigators (11) |
| 8 Dig up (6) | 8 Air circulation (11) |
| 9 Sodium chloride (4) | 9 Marzipan source (6) |
| 10 W Indian shrub (4) | 10 Still (3) |
| 11 Victor (6) | 11 Shrii cry (6) |
| 12 Zigzag course (4) | 12 Glossy coating (7) |
| 13 Small race (4) | 13 North vessel (3) |
| 14 Glide over snow (3) | 14 Orchard fruit (3) |
| 15 Uneven (5) | 15 Avoid (4) |
| 16 Tridactyl ballad (7) | 16 Freeze (4) |
| 17 Fashion creator (11) | 17 Form a lump (4) |

SOLUTION TO No 99
ACROSS: 1 Picture 5 Inter 8 Con 9 Skiffid
10 Tunic 11 Fear 12 Turbine 14 Choreographer
16 Wadiah 18 Rapt 21 Thumb 22 Bracket
23 Leo 24 Rocky 25 Press-up
DOWN: 1 Post 2 Chime 3 Unforgetfully 4 Ecst
5 Intermarriage 6 Tannish 7 Rockery 13 Icy
water 15 Obscure 17 Bobop 19 Pokes 20 Stop

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The demon drink



A recent book, *Psychology - A science in Conflict*, contends that psychologists disagree far more than other scientists about the nature of their science - or art.

What is an interesting fact to one psychologist will strike another one as a trite trifle, and a not well proven one at that. So, read these findings with care.

The fear that drink will rot the brain has now been partially confirmed for the two fortified over-forties at least. Mark Goldman and colleagues at Wayne State University kept 31 alcoholics off the bottle for three months. After two to three weeks without a drink, young alcoholics recovered completely. They were as good as their sober controls at fitting pegs into holes at speed, at matching patterns and keeping track of moving objects. But those who were older than 40 did not recover even after three dry months. The most surprising finding, Goldman claims, is that this failure to recover has nothing to do with how long subjects had had a drink problem. Some men over 40 had been alcoholics for only four years; others for 35 years. Neither group managed to get their visual and spatial performance back to normal. The moral seems to be drink till you're 40 and then join a temperance club.

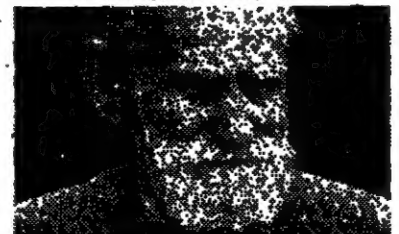
Dog's life

Pavlov's dogs are among the most famous beasts in psychology. One can only wonder what Pavlov would have made of Daniel Tortora of RemBeh-Con Inc (which must stand, I suppose, O Brave New World, for Remedial Behaviour Conditioning Inc). Tortora has spent years in 'the elimination of avoidance-motivated aggression in dogs'. He has devised a training programme in which dogs learn to play and are given a variety of challenges so that they conquer fear and their desire to snarl, snap and bite. Tortora thinks humans can also be trained to be 'prosocial' with a 'safety training programme' in which

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research:

PSYCHOLOGY



Pavlov: beastly experiments they would be given a series of escalating but bearable challenges. Dreams of controlling human beings through such plans may be part of what gives psychology a bad name.

Stress equality

Immigrant groups are complaining that far too many blacks in Britain end up in psychiatric hospitals. The values of psychiatrists are white; the criteria by which patients are judged sane or insane are those of a white society. A rumbustious Rastafarian may convince a psychiatrist all too easily that he needs a spell in the bin. What is playful in culture may appear pathological in ours.

In Los Angeles, a survey of 1,003 families has tried to discover whether blacks, 'Anglos' or Hispanics expressed depression in different ways. Crudely put, were the blues of 'whites' the same blues as the blues of blacks? Members of the 1,003 families were interviewed for an hour and a quarter. Questions covered everything from how often they had thought of suicide to how many pleasant thoughts they had daily. The results showed that there seemed to be little difference between the groups' experiences of depression. The Hispanics, however, reported fewer feelings of well-being than the others. Los Angeles is not London. But this study does suggest that it would be

odd to find a disproportionately high number of one ethnic group in psychiatric wards.

Rest in peace

Transcendental meditation was one of the great fads of the Swinging Sixties. Its adepts argued that they had nothing to fear from scientific investigation. One can measure the physiological miracles that meditation produced - lower heart rate, less stressful arousal and so on. Studies have certainly established that when meditating a person's heart rate and blood pressure tend to go down, but according to David Holmes and colleagues at Kansas University, no one has really done a methodological comparison of those who meditate regularly and those who, guru-less, just rest.

The Kansas psychologists found that meditators tended to have a higher heart rate and diastolic blood pressure before they started meditating than the non-meditators did before they began to take a rest. Experienced meditators certainly reduced, during meditation, their heart rate, blood pressure, breathing rate and skin resistance (a traditional measure of stress) - but to no greater extent than did those who just rested. A crucial difference, however, was that those who meditated said they felt much more physiologically relaxed than those who just rested. The study certainly suggests that one should be cautious of making grand claims about the physiological effects of meditation.

Pram sense

One of the most thriving fields in psychology is that of child development. Very young infants are constantly found to have unlikely, precocious abilities which run counter to old theories. A team at Vanderbilt University led by R. Reiser recently discovered that infants of about 12 months can find their way to their mothers through a maze after being lifted to give them a good view of its intricacies from above. Put down near the start, they remember enough of the lay-out quickly to pick out the route back to mother.

David Cohen

MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

There is an animal in British society more beloved of man than the horse, it is keeping very quiet. Not even the dog, allegedly my best friend, can inspire the pitch of affection commanded by the equine species. I must confess at the outset that the horse excites in me little more than terror and grudging envy: terror, because of his or her proven ability to fling me into the air like a hay bale, and envy because of his or her capacity to circle Aintree at the speed of a family saloon and be insured for sums of up to £7 million. I feel that with either of these attributes I would enhance incalculably the esteem in which I am held by society in general and my wife in particular.

But as one without such high performance in the areas of speed and stamina, it is my lot to admire those creatures who possess it, and to note,

mostly with astonishment, the way in which its qualities have rendered it so humanoid. I suppose it speaks well for mankind's sense of gratitude that we give the honour of near-equality to animals that have served us so tirelessly in matters military, agrarian and hedonistic. Take this for example, a small zoo news item in *The Times* last year recording the passing of Sinbad, the horse used by President Reagan when he hosted the Western television series *Death Valley Days*. Here is the embryo of a respect usually evinced by human obituarists: "Sinbad was retired from show business several years ago and spent his time munching alfalfa and entertaining children". I would attempt a joke about how wrong it is for anyone, horses included, to munch entertaining children, were I not afraid that Sinbad's surviving relatives would sue.

Or take the brief but spirited correspondence on our letters page last December about the matter of honours for horses, after the suggestion that deserving cases be rewarded with medals had been derided in the Commons. One correspondent reminded us that Vonole, a 14.2 hand grey Arabian, ridden by Lord Roberts in the 313-mile expedition for the relief of Kandahar, received by special permission of Queen Victoria the Afghan Medal with four clasps and the Kabul Kandahar

Star. In 1897 at the ripe old age of 26, wearing his honours, he carried Roberts in the Diamond Jubilee procession.

These days, of course, the horse's military role is almost entirely ceremonial, and its industrial function has declined dramatically; 35 years ago there were no fewer than 47,000 pit ponies in this country hauling coal for long distances thousands of feet below the surface. Now there are barely 100, retained for drawing supplies through areas of the mines which are either impossible or uneconomic to modernize.

No such dwindling in the ranks of what might be termed the leisure horse which, in its several manifestations has almost as many sorts and conditions as the human. None is more popular than the child's pony, so often the homely precursor of boys in the affections of a faddist daughter. They (the ponies, not the boys) can still be had for as little as £300 with a little judicious research, but the minefield is well charted: the pony, like the boy of later years perhaps, is outgrown and a replacement sought, with all the attendant heartaches.

In almost every category, it seems, the impulse towards horse ownership is linked inextricably to

the competitive spirit; the child's pony class is no exception, with the ever present lure of the gymkhana and Pony Club. Nor is that of the polo pony, almost always a four-figure investment, and exclusively the province of the AB socio-economic group. Few owner/players would admit to the charge of running upper-class motor bikes, but it is apt enough. Then we have the breeders, whose number includes the Duchess of Devonshire with her Shetlands at Chatsworth and the Queen herself, with her fat black fell ponies at Balmoral. Neither of these ladies, I agree, need feel the need to be competitive, as they are already winners on most conventional criteria, yet can there ever be a total absence of edgy comparison where offspring are concerned? I doubt it.

Finally we come to the Private Drivers and the Trotters, vehicle people, respectively the Duke of Edinburgh and Old Stipples of the equestrian spectrum, and the Commercial Drivers, of which the Whitebread dray men are the most famous example. For my part, I would be happy with the little piebald mare from the stables on the common, whose back is so low that my feet would scrape the ground reassuringly. And if she is not available, then I shall stick to Shanks's Pony.

Alan Franks

Penny Perrick

Supporting high-fibre... sweetly

A million fewer cigarette smokers since 1980. This pronouncement from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys is sweet music to the Brown Rice Brigade, a group with whom I am uneasily allied. I totally support the BRP's stand against unhealthy living, their ashtrayless houses, their alfalfa sprout incubators, the nine un-chemically treated bean rows in their bee-humming glade.

Where I part company with the high fibre intake enthusiasts is over the degree of thuggery permissible in the fight to stamp out hamburgers and Harvey Wallbangers. I believe in mannerly behaviour towards my fellow man, even if he sits three heaped spoonfuls of deadly white sugar into his instant coffee and then puts the damp spoon back in the sugar bowl.

More obsessive converts of the good life are less peaceably inclined. In cinemas they thump somebody painfully on the shoulder while informing him that he has lit up in a no-smoking area. In restaurants they demand to know the whereabouts of stock cubes and other hidden poisons. Their latest plan is to force the Department of Health to publish a shock report on the effects of the nation's sluggish, salty and sugary diet. Following which, I suppose, these busybodies will insist on stiff fines for being in possession of a packet of Smarties.

How French fries score over cranky Yanks

No one will deny that a soyaburger is better for you than a bag of chips, but before getting too faddy about food it's as well to reflect on some findings by Dr Ray Roseman, cardiologist and senior research physician at Stanford Research Institute. Dr Roseman believes that health is "a psycho-social rather than a biological state" and to prove it he did some comparative research on groups of Parisians and Americans.

The French sat slumped for hours over long, heavy meals, washed down with wine cemented with Gauloises. The Americans lived more the sort of life advocated by Jane Fonda, the kind that calls for a scattering of wheatgrass and leotards. Not surprisingly, the Parisians had higher blood pressure. They also had less than a third of the heart-attack rate of the Americans, which Dr Roseman attributed to the fact that their lives were rich in friends and fun as well as fats and fags. Sometimes a couple of gins and few laughs will do more to put the roses back in your cheeks than a bowl of grated carrots and a yoga class.

The grishm and militant disapproval towards the things that most people like - an ice-cold beer in a smoky pub, a bar of chocolate on a cushion-filled sofa - is likely to make converts. Better to concentrate on describing the effects of too frequent self-indulgence: the searing pain of a heart attack, the ghastly sweaty tiredness from carrying too much weight around.

The height of unglamour in Hollywood Road

This message isn't getting home. On television recently a woman was trying to get down to the weight prescribed by her doctor by having her jaws wired together. She was not looking forward to a healthier life once her immense girth had been fined down to manageable proportions. The reason she wanted to hit her target weight, she declared through literally clenched teeth, was "so that I'll be able to eat my Christmas dinner".

No killjoy report from the Department of Health will put her off her brandy butter: a tour around the cardiac ward might. The Brown Rice Brigade prefers more puritan methods and has just scored a triumph in Hollywood Road, a street in Fulham lined with pubs. Chinese restaurants and delicatessens selling home-made chocolate fudge cake. In the middle of this backstairs' paradise has appeared something billed as "London's first non-alcoholic art gallery". Inside, the paintings are as innocuous as the fruit juice cocktails. A sign of bleak times ahead.

Lady Howe, currently swotting at the London School of Economics and Mrs Cecil Parkinson, now engaged in postgraduate work at Brunel University, are two of the 50,000 or so mature students now treading the same path as the heroine of Willy Russell's play, *Educating Rita*, that academically inclined young woman who found that education, like love, can be better second time around. I, the Government-backed Further Education Unit has its way, thousands more under-educated Ritas will find it easier to get into colleges and universities.

Mature students stick to their courses, often in spite of family and financial pressures, don't throw tomatoes at visiting politicians or chuck paint over the college statuary. Most of them emerge with respectable degrees and diplomas too. Admissions tutors, faced with more of these goody two-shoes, might well prefer them to a loutish eighteen-year-old, however brilliant his A-levels. Rita may yet find herself falling in a punt on the Chertwell.

Tomorrow: Suzy Menkes brings out the beastly in fashion

Making horse-sense of it all



FALL GUY

Ben Burton
Hunter

I was 40 before I got on a horse, although I was a farmer's son and brought up in a hunting family. Then I moved to this farm in Warwickshire and found myself right in the middle of good hunting country (the Bicester and Warden

Hill). I found everyone was mad on hunting. The children were growing up and were into ponies, so I thought I would have a go and on the spur of the moment bought a horse - a big old grey cob. I thought "I'd look quite good on that". He had just about every thing possible wrong with him, but he got me going. I used to fall off a hell of a lot - it was worst of all when the horse walked all over you, but luckily I never broke anything. Now I'm 50 and I go as well as the best of them and I don't fall off as much; but I

still get into some awkward situations... jumped over a car one day - yes there were people in it - it was a bit hairy. I have three hunters now - I like to have two out, get my wife to bring the second in the afternoon. Hunters know when it's a hunting day - stop being docile and get on their toes. They know more about hunting than we do. We take them on holiday at the end of the season to Exmoor and get fit together... I've only got so many hunting days, left and I don't intend to miss any of them.



JUMPED UP

Jackie Whitaker
Eventer

I've got two horses that are now intermediate - Moonstruck and Royal Park - and one that has yet to do anything - Seascope. I've had Moonstruck for six years. We were looking for a hunter for my father and we bought him. He was very thin, had been racing on the flat but was no good at that presumably. He was no good at hunting either. So when he had gathered some strength I started schooling him and found that he was a stunning jumper. Royal Park I bought at the Ascot sales. She's a chestnut mare and they're not very popular - but I like them. When they're good they're very, very, good. The youngest,

Seascope, I really think could be the best - he's got a lot of ability but it has taken him a long time to trust me, nearly a year so far. I think he must have been abused a little, treated roughly when he was very young - whatever it was it made him very wary. But I have hopes that he will be a Badminton winner. I ride every moment that I'm not working, and I spend all the money I earn on it and then some. I like eventing so much because it's an all-round sport, combining cross-country, dressage and show jumping. I work peculiar hours, which helps, but I spend two hours either end of the day feeding and mucking out, then anything up to six hours a day riding. I do it because I love it, because one can always achieve more. I think we love horses so much because the good old British are naturally very reserved. They can communicate better with animals than with people - and horses are very responsive.

WORK HORSE

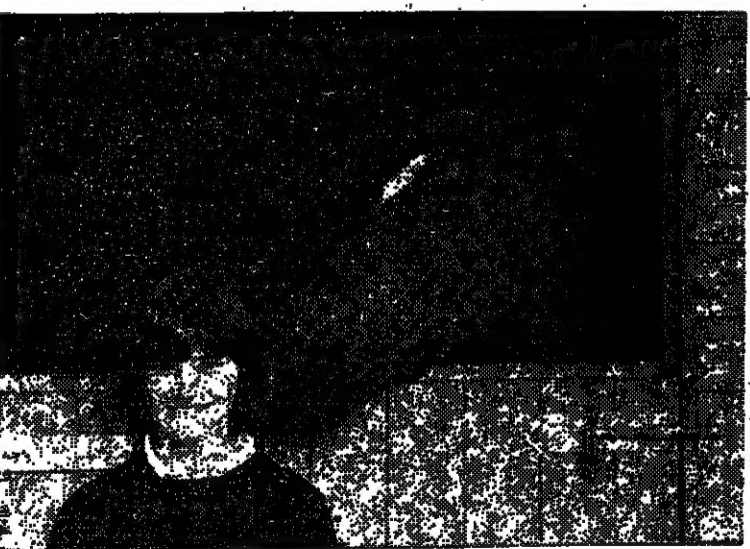
Geoffrey Marton
Heavy horse owner

"In the early days everyone thought I was mad to work the farm entirely with horses. Now I think their attitude has changed a bit. Today I'm looking out on a cloudless sky, and I find it difficult to remember the dreadful wet spring. A lot of farmers didn't get their crops planted. We did, I've always believed we would need to work with horses again - it won't happen overnight, but it will happen, as alternative resources run dry or out or are just unsuitable. I farm with Shires, Clydesdales, Percherons and Ardennes. We are about two thirds arable and at some time we do almost all the work with horses - manuring, tilling, ploughing, harrowing, cultivating, drilling, hay-making, harvesting. I'm not against the new technology altogether - we use a fair amount - but I believe in trying to get the best from the old ways and the new. I think the



British have a feeling for horses for several reasons. If you go back far enough, to the year 1000 AD say, the Germanic people - and that includes us - held the horse sacred, more than a source of food or as a work animal. We've never eaten horse flesh, like the French, though I sometimes think it would dignify the horse if we did rather than feeding it

to our animals. As a nation we're a bit potty about them. I've a great feeling for them but people credit them with far more intelligence than they have: they're dopey creatures with a wonderful memory but a pig is far superior as far as intelligence goes. When you get a really clever one he's nothing but trouble."



PONY TAILS

Helen Faccenda
11-year-old pony owner

My sister and I had a pony between us, called Prince. When I was about five or six I got my own pony, called Isabel, and my sister had one called Bobby Socks. And then I had Blackjack, who did everything well. He was a very good hunter - and a good show jumper. I started winning with Blackjack and I was very sad when he went. We sold him to someone who had just joined the Pony Club and I still see him

around. I think he still recognizes me... Then I had a pony called Oakley Spring Martin (I call him Martin and I've still got him. He's very lively but he can do quite a good dressage test, hums and showjumps well. Then there's Murphy - we got him from Ireland from a man called Paddy Murphy but his real name is Ballymacree Lad. He started off as my sister's but now he's mine too. He's very beautiful. On our television at the moment there are seven cups from Blackjack. But I'm going to boarding school next term and I don't know whether I'll be able to stay so attached to them since I shall only see them when I come home for the holidays.



FLAT OUT

Norman Stephens
Racehorse owner

I'd always loved racing but I came to be an owner by accident. A close friend had a share in a horse and I thought if he has one, why shouldn't I? It's difficult to make horses pay their way. Whatever you pay for the horse - and it could be between £1,000 and £1,000,000 for a flat horse - you've got to be talking about £150 a week to keep in a small yard, or £200 if you've got a potential Derby

winner with say Mr Stoute, Guy Harwood or Major Hern. Then there's the jockey's fees, travelling expenses etc... On Edge is the only flat horse I have. I bought him at Doncaster with a career in hurdling in mind - he seemed strong, muscular, the sort to jump. Regrettably this was not true. He ran twice and was last twice. John Speering (On Edge's trainer) and I decided to give him one last chance on the flat. He won his first race for me at Kempton. We discovered his secret, to hold him up until you know you've lost the race and then let him go... He cost £750 and to date has won over £42,000. He's one in a million. I know I shall never be so lucky again.



FOAL AHEAD

The Marchioness of Tavistock
Breeder/Owner

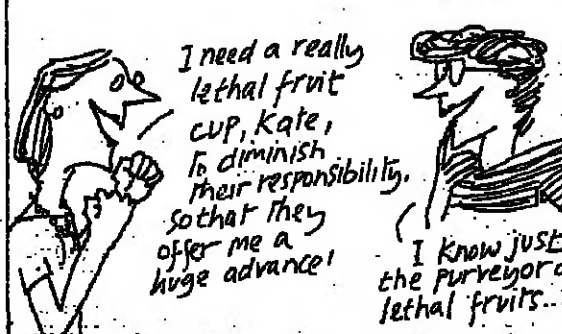
I bought my first filly foal in 1965. Until I bought Mrs Moss I was getting depressed: it was not a question of how many won, but of how many were lost. I bought her in 1975 in a sale; I saw this pretty little mare standing at £1,800 - it seemed a ridiculous price so I put my hand up. She hadn't reached her reserve and I thought "my husband's going to murder me!" She was in foal, and that was sold for £1,600 the following year

which wasn't so bad... Then in '78 she had a dreadful time with her foal. I begged my husband to let me keep the foal... We called her Pusky and took her to Henry Cecil. She won at Ascot, ran eight times and was placed in seven out of her eight races! Mrs Moss is a most remarkable mother: her nine offspring include Socks Up, Pistop, Put Upon, and the three-times-out, three-times-winner Precocious. One has to treat one's animals like one's children - to teach them to set their sights as high as possible. I have put all the births in *The Times*: "To Mrs Moss, a son (or daughter), at Woburn..."

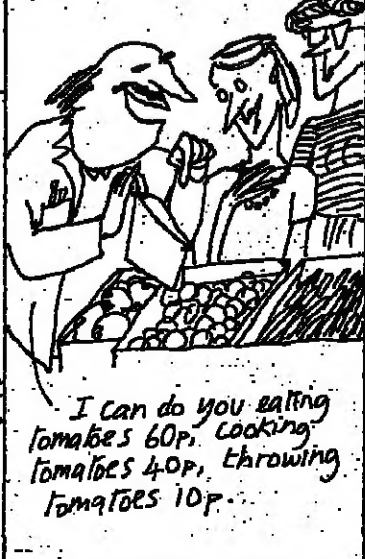
Judy Froshaug

FLAVIA CORKSCREW'S GOOD FOOD GUIDE

FLAVIA HAS INVITED HER PUBLISHERS FOR DRINKS, AND ASKS HER FRIEND, KATE FANG, FOR ADVICE...



AT THE ROUGH INNER CITY GREENGROCER'S...



1lb of throwing tomatoes please



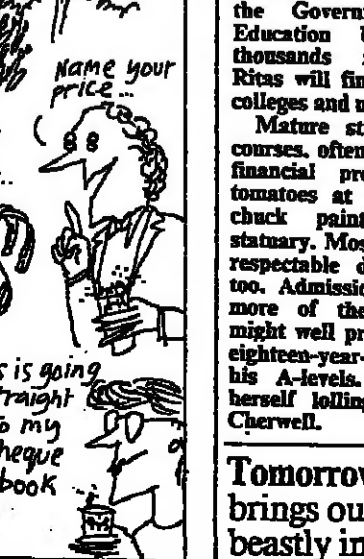
Lovely avocados! - Ready for breaking your teeth on now! Could do someone a nasty injury, these.



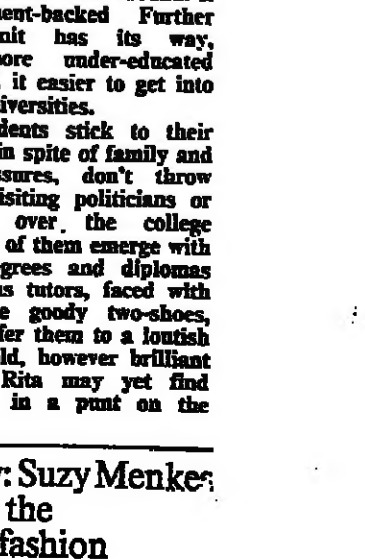
THE PUBLISHERS ARRIVE...



My goodness, Flavia! This kick has got a punch in it!



I call it Hooligan's Fizz.





THE TIMES DIARY

Goya, going, gone?

Spain's prosecutor-general has taken up the case of a missing portrait by Goya which Franco once wanted to present to Hitler. The portrait of the Marquessa of Santa Cruz attracted the Caudillo because it showed her wearing a swastika pendant. The portrait was bought in London in the early 1940s at a nod from Franco to a Spanish industrialist who was then in the painting over. But Franco lost interest as the Third Reich faltered. The industrialist's heirs now deny suspicions that the portrait has left Spain in defiance of the country's art export laws.

Double exposure

My lucky colleagues in the Soviet press can have it both ways. The weekly journal *New Times* published a photo of commandos patrolling the central American bush, and said it showed "Nicaraguan border guards constantly on combat preparedness against US-backed counter-revolutionaries." The next day the army newspaper *Krasnaya Zvezda* (Red Star) published the same picture, but with the men described as "US-armed Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries who have returned to their native land with the sole aim of overthrowing its lawful government."

When the venerable but now rather tired Nationwide is replaced in the autumn by 60 Minutes, Nick Ross of BBC's Breakfast Time and Fran Morrison, who presents current affairs programmes later in the day, are widely tipped for the presenter's role. Each has done a more than competent job, neither is known - at least not publicly - to waste time by throwing it over party guests.

Piano discord

Not a good run for the pianist Bernard Roberts. His performance of a Mozart concerto tomorrow at Guildhall has been cancelled because the amplified Acker Bilk band is due to perform just outside the building at the same time. Now his 1983 tour of India and Hongkong has been called off, with the British Council declining to help subsidize his travel and hotel costs. The British work for the tour was to have been Stephen Dodgson's Third Piano Sonata, which Radio Hongkong wanted to record in the studio. Classical music in India is described by the British Council as "very much a minority interest."

Under raps

A Berkshire businessman arranged a delivery of a scrap motor from America as a test of a new method of packaging. After convincing H.M. Customs and Excise that the contents of the package were of no intrinsic value, but that the packaging was, he eventually received the parcel, on which postal charges were \$74.50. The Customs had opened it, and forwarded it loosely wrapped in cardboard and string.

Marsh mellow

As a founder member of the British Academy of Gastronomes, PHS has a suggestion: why does not some enterprising restaurateur bring the seasonal delicacy, marsh samphire, to London? Undisputedly "poor man's asparagus", *salicornia europaea* gathered from muddy beaches is now on sale at the roadside, in markets and in restaurants on the north Norfolk coast. Washed well, boiled briefly and served with butter, it is delicious, and, as far as I know, unobtainable in London.

Richard Simmonds, Tory MEP for Maidenhead, who has been given the job of inquiring into video nasty films for the European Parliament, says he has never seen one, but is no stranger to gore. He started his working life in a slaughterhouse.

Polly-phonics

The Buxton Festival is holding auditions for its two operatic productions on Wednesday at the Haddon Hall Hotel in the town. All the participants will be animals and birds, because the parts they are seeking to fill are for two falcons, two rabbits and a performing dog in Vivaldi's *Griseleda*, and for two doves and a dead parrot in Gounod's *La Colombe*. The falcons will be tested for handleability by the singers. One rabbit must be patient enough to stay on stage 20 minutes. The leading contender for the canine part can mime, and the two doves are required to come reliably into the wings. The extinct polly, in the story at least, gets eaten, but a stuffed one would probably do.

Bowed under

The wrapper on an imported cello string read, in English: "Thanks to this type of metal strings, it has been possible to achieve both the softness of sound and the softness, to tell that, one can recall the bowel stirrings of the past, but this type far better than the latter owing to the promptness in emission and the ready and stable tuning."

New Scientist has spotted an elementary mistake in a book intended to introduce primary school children to the facts of sexual reproduction. Published by Adam and Charles Black, the book is called *The Dandelion*. There's the rub, for our dandelions are in fact asexual, and reproduce without fertilization, by parthenogenesis. When the kiddies find that, how will they ever believe what they are told about the birds and the bees?

PHS

The hanging debate: Teddy Taylor puts the case for restoration

A vote for the moral majority

One of the most interesting features of the capital punishment debate has been the remarkable activity of the liberal-progressive establishment in seeking to create a climate of opinion hostile to measures which it regards as unacceptable.

We have seen in the opinion and news columns of the heavier press a virtual flood of propaganda designed to show that the case for capital punishment is bogus and unfounded and that, in any event, the exercise has no prospect of being implemented.

Last week the formidable and respected *Economist* abandoned its usual conservative cover for a dramatic "The case against hanging". One of the main points of the three-page article was that capital punishment would result in massive confusion and delays of years because of the appeals which convicted murderers could make to the European Court. It went on: "Britain's membership of a European Convention which almost certainly rules out execution means that appeals from British courts would be further subject to delay, and the penalty would be even more uncertainly applied."

Far from providing scope for further appeals, Article 2 of the European Convention states specifically that: No one shall be deprived of his life intentionally save in the execution of a sentence of a court following his conviction of a crime for which this penalty is provided by law."

In short, while the European Court has immense powers to hear appeals about a vast range of penalties, lawful capital punishment is specifically excluded. And while it is true that a number of European states joined to add a protocol to the declaration on the abolition of the death penalty, the British Government recently made it clear that it would not be bound by this in any way.

MPs have been subjected to a series of statements and opinions from pressure groups and institutions. Recently I had a message from the general secretary of the British Council of Churches advising me that its executive committee and "Christian leaders" had agreed that there was "substantial doubt that capital punishment had any significant deterrent effect".

Home Office figures show that in the 20 years from 1945 to 1964, when capital punishment was in force, and despite a large increase in general crime, there was no increase in the number of unlawful killings. In fact it could be argued that the total actually fell: there were 347 in 1946, and 296 in 1964.

Since abolition the figures have climbed steadily to an average of 590 a year in the last five years. But even if these figures are discounted, surely even the British Council of Churches cannot ignore the sharp increase in the use of guns by criminals since abolition. In the last 10 years, the number of

offences involving firearms has risen from about 1,700 a year to more than 8,000.

There have been repeated news stories that the Government and even the Prime Minister are "secretly" opposed to the reintroduction of capital punishment; that Conservative Whips have been speaking in dark corners to innocent backbenchers; and that even if the vote was in favour, no Bill would be presented for at least two years.

None of these reports has any foundation. I have heard not a breath of any Whip seeking to influence anyone on the issue, and the Prime Minister made it abundantly clear that a positive vote on Wednesday would be followed by a Bill in Government time this session.

The liberal-progressives have won most of the battles, at least until this week. The flood of permissive legislation which has gone through the Commons since the 1960s, and the failure to amend any of these measures, is a tribute to their success. But I believe that their luck is coming to an end and that Wednesday might see the beginning of the fight back by those disparagingly referred to, but accurately described, as the moral majority.

The author is Conservative MP for Southend, East. Tomorrow: Lord Carr of Hadley, the case against.

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Who will follow Father Banda?

Dr Hastings Banda, now probably in his mid-eighties, does not merely dominate Malawi. A stern Victorian paternalist, who brooks no criticism and treats his ministers like wayward children, he has become the semi-deified object of a personality cult which has few parallels anywhere else in the world.

Dr Banda is Life President of both the nation and the Malawi Congress Party (MCP), the only legal political organization. He also acts as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Justice and Agriculture. He appoints all ministers and senior party officials, and enforces an old-fashioned puritanism imbued from the Scottish missionaries who gave him his first schooling and baptized him into the Church of Scotland, of which he is an ordained elder.

Drinking is strongly discouraged, and women are forbidden to wear mini-skirts and slacks. Men cannot grow their hair below mouth level. Films, newspapers, magazines and books are strictly censored. There is no television, though Dr Banda has a set and is rumoured to pick up BBC transmissions via his own earth satellite station.

The President's periodic excursions among his subjects follow a well-established routine. First, the wailing sirens and the motorcade, containing usually two ambulances and, mysteriously, a fire engine; then the adulatory reception by party officials and dancing by groups of *mbumba*, ampie-bosomed ladies in brightly coloured shifts decorated with portraits of the President. Dr Banda himself, however hot the weather, never varies his wardrobe of black bomburg suit, dark three-piece western suit, walking stick and fly whisk.

It is hardly surprising that Malawians find difficulty in imagining life without him. The prospect is no less intriguing for the country's neighbours, for under Dr Banda's rule, Malawi has been the odd-man-out in southern Africa. Full diplomatic relations were established more than 10 years ago with apartheid-practising South Africa,

and Dr Banda has never made any secret of his impatience with the pretensions of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), whose "diplomacy of bluff and bluster" he delighted in puncturing in the days when he still bothered to attend its meetings.

At home, he spurned the fashionable post-colonial nostrums of free education and health services for the masses, and rapid Africanization of the civil service, emphasizing instead rural development and government support for the peasant smallholder. The result is that while few Malawians have a secondary education, even fewer starve. The country, though very poor, grows enough maize free of the disfiguring shanty towns produced by the exodus of the rural destitute elsewhere in Africa.

Malawi's unique relationship with South Africa has undoubtedly brought material benefits. The South Africans largely financed the construction of the new capital of Lilongwe, and the new rail spur linking it to the port of Nacala on the Mozambique coast; and more recently built a 180,000-ton grain silo north of the city, which can store an entire season's marketed maize crop. The price Dr Banda paid, particularly after the collapse of white-minority regimes in Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, was to be cold-shouldered and treated as an Uncle Tom by other African states less ready to acknowledge their economic links with Pretoria.

In 1980, Dr Banda made a move to come in from the cold by joining the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). The aim of this grouping of nine black states is to reduce their economic dependence on South Africa, in the first instance by improving port facilities in Mozambique, Tanzania and Angola and the road and rail links serving them. This is of obvious interest for Malawi and other landlocked members of SADCC.

At present, for example, neither



Banda: in his eighties, but still no certain successor

Nacala nor Beira, further south, which are Malawi's natural outlets to the sea, can handle the heavy demands on them. Malawi's tobacco exports, its main foreign exchange earner, have to take an expensive and circuitous route via Zambia, where they are transferred to a pontoon ferry and taken across the Zambezi into Botswana, and thence to Zeerust and the South African rail link to Durban.

Malawi's imports are no less badly affected. Some 130,000 tons of fertilizer ordered by Malawi have been held up in Mozambique ports for the past 12 to 18 months, forcing Dr Banda to turn to South Africa for supplies. Similarly, nearly all Malawi's fuel imports come via South Africa, with the result that about half the price of petrol in Malawi is accounted for by transport costs.

While Malawi's special position has to some extent now been accepted by its neighbours, Dr Banda's relations with most other SADCC leaders remain cool at best. He never concealed his dislike for Robert Mugabe. He is barely on speaking terms with Presidents Julius Nyerere (Tanzania) and

Samora Machel (Mozambique), and there is a danger of territorial disputes with both their countries should oil ever be discovered in Lake Malawi in economically viable quantities.

Dr Banda enjoys a warmer personal rapport with President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia. Both belong to the Chewa tribe, and both believe there is merit in at least maintaining a dialogue with South Africa. Dr Kaunda invited Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, under a tree on the Botswana-South African border in April 1982.

Both Tanzania and Mozambique, and more recently Zambia, have provided a haven for exiled Malawian opposition groups, none of which appears to have much following inside the country. The most substantial opposition figure is Dr Orton Chirwa, a former Justice Minister, now under sentence of death for treason, having been turned back to Malawi in late 1981.

No Gladstonian liberal himself, Dr Chirwa could be a contender for the succession if he survives (the President can commute the death sentence) and would probably like to pursue a more conventional African foreign policy, though whether he or any one else could now afford to sever diplomatic ties with South Africa is another matter.

It seems that earlier this year Dr Banda suggested devolving some powers on to the shoulders of John Tembo, the governor of the Reserve Bank, possibly by creating the office of Prime Minister or Vice President for him. An unpopular figure, Mr Tembo appears to draw his main strength from the fact that he is the uncle of Miss Cecilia Kadzandira, Dr Banda's official hostess and consort and a woman of considerable power and influence.

The move to advance him was opposed by several Cabinet ministers, including Dick Matenje and Aaron Cadzandira, both popular figures who shortly afterwards died in what was officially described as a car accident. Independent sources, however, claim to have eye-witness evidence that they were shot, probably by low-level members of the police, though on whose instructions remains unclear.

Michael Hornsby

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

One more nail in the unions' coffin

The council workers at Merthyr Tydfil have been on strike. The dispute, now settled, did not concern me directly, as in the course of an average week I make little or no use of their services, but it did and does concern the citizens of that picturesque and legend-haunted spot, and more particularly a Mr Francis Pippins, whose wife recently died. The late Mrs Pippins had expressed a wish to be buried in a particular local cemetery, but the municipal gravediggers were among those on strike, the local undertaker was unwilling to cross the picket-lines after having received a threatening telephone call, and Mr Pippins, mindful of his wife's last request, would not agree (this was the reluctant undertaker's advice to have her cremated instead, and to have her ashes stored until the dispute was over).

The deadlock was broken by the family and friends of Mrs Pippins, who rallied round and dug her grave themselves, defying the pickets at the cemetery gate and incidentally achieving a notable "first" for the do-it-yourself movement. But when the burial of Mrs Pippins in the grave dug by her closest circle, was about to take place, it was discovered that the grave had been filled in and turfed over.

Leaders of the union concerned in the dispute denied that any of their members was responsible for this action, and I propose to ignore the denial, on the ground that, try as I may, I cannot summon up sufficient gullibility to believe it.

It is generally agreed that one of the most substantial contributions to the decline of support for the Labour Party at the last two general elections has been the behaviour of the trade union movement: recognition of the fact may be coloured by rejoicing or regret, but I doubt if Mr Eric Heffer himself, surely the most credulous figure since the investors in the South Sea Bubble, would maintain that it is not true. From the "winter of discontent" that felled Mr Callaghan to the buffooneries of

Mr Scargill, and from the antics of "Red Robbo" to the more subtle but hardly less outrageous antics of Welsh Mosso, the unions have for years been sowing a crop that Mrs Thatcher has been effortlessly reaping whatever the final form of the legislation that Mr Tebbit is to introduce in this Parliament, it will be second in popularity only to a proposal to abolish the income tax, with the additional advantage that it is actually going to happen.

Now if you can imagine any action better calculated to reinforce and extend that feeling than what happened at Merthyr Tydfil you must have a nonpareil imagination. Yet there is a paradox in the story, as in most union horror stories. The men who prevented a widower from burying his dead wife, and those who went so far as to fill in her grave when he tried to do so without their agreement, surely did not want to incur public odium for themselves, their organization and the unions in general.

What was it that, in leading them into behaviour that was not of men but of dogs, simultaneously blinded them to the effect that the action must inevitably have on the people of the area? Tim Jones, who wrote the original *Times* story of the incident, assures me that the filling in of the grave lost the strikers virtually all the remaining public sympathy they had, but the assurance even of so meticulous a reporter as Mr Jones was quite unnecessary: anyone with a quarter of a brain could deduce that that would be the inevitable result. The question is: why could the strikers not deduce it?

The answer goes to the heart of the lamentable quality of Britain's trade unions, and constitutes a terrible indictment of the labour movement, of governments of all political stripes, and of our educational system. Nobody has taught these people how to use power.

You may say that the union power exerted on this occasion was limited; it added to the grief of a

man already bowed by sorrow, but that is hardly comparable to the power wielded by an Ahasuerus or a Stalin. True, and fortunate, for in the selfish, irresponsible or downright wicked use of power, great oaks from little acorns grow. But slight though the power wielded by trade union officials may be, it is not altogether negligible, and in any case that is not my point; the important fact is that power may be used well or ill, positively or negatively, to further or to hamper the advance of humanity.

And nobody has ever told the British trade union movement that. (The one man who might have done - George Woodcock, the most thoughtful and substantial of all modern TUC general secretaries - took quite consciously the disastrous decision not to attempt to lead the unions at all, and an opportunity was lost that may never recur.) I believe that training in the exercise of power is in essence training in moral quality, but it is not necessary to take so lofty a view; such training is also a means of teaching self-preservation, and if the union movement is not interested in discovering the difference between right and wrong, it ought at least to equip itself to learn what will, and what will not, enhance its own material interests. Yet it does not.

The American unions, which are much weaker than ours, do not make this mistake; the German ones, which are stronger than ours, do not make it either. The Japanese, which are of a different order altogether, would find the British attitude too bizarre to understand. So much the worse, your average Merthyr Tydfil gravedigger would reply, for a pack of bloody foreigners - a reply which might at first seem conclusive, until you notice that the workers in all three of those countries are very considerably better off than they are here, and if you are capable of believing that there is no direct connexion between the two conditions you must be Mr Heffer himself.

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Anne Sofer

The dark side of this free choice

There is a lot of talk in political circles these days about hanging. To most people I know in the Labour, Liberal and Social Democratic parties, such conversations feel very odd indeed. Although abolition effectively took place in 1964, the discussion and campaigning was at its most intense some years before, as described in the extract from the Koesters' autobiography in *The Times* last week.

It was really a 1950s issue, and many politicians now middle-aged will not have debated the matter seriously since their student days. For me it has an ironically nostalgic flashback quality, as if we were crowning the Queen, again, or watching Sedgman win Wimbledon. Or believing that enlightened reforms once gained were irreversible.

Suddenly, we start speculating about individual Conservative colleagues - not, as before, is he a full-blown monetarist or not, is he for or against the abolition of the GLC, where does he stand on Fortresses Falklands, but simply, is he a hanger? And the question has that same grisly fascination the act itself has always had: voyeuristic, faintly obscene.

I recently asked a GLC Tory, a rather right-wing one, I thought, the question direct. He gave me a very long and sour glance, then said he was unable to answer the question without bitterness; he had been rejected by more parliamentary selection committees than he cared to remember because of his refusal to commit himself to voting for restoration. He had tried to evade it, he said, by saying he thought there should be a referendum, but he was not allowed to get away with that. He had to say, yes, he was an out-and-out hanger. And he could not. The same evening I heard a similar story about another very able, thoroughly Thatcherite young Conservative councillor.

If these stories are true, they are confirmation of what many of us have long suspected - that the Conservative Party, becoming more and more like the Labour Party in the way it conducts its most important function, the selection of parliamentary candidates. I expect to hear any day now of MPs being mandated by their local associations to vote for the return of hanging in Wednesday's debate.

There are probably several Tory MPs - less principled than my colleague, or more skilled in equivocation - who are desperately wishing the issue would go away. They no more want a return to the dark ages than their counterparts in the Labour Party want to abolish the monarchy, but they know they are in for a sticky time back at the grass roots if they vote against it. The best thing for them is what the Cabinet has thoughtfully provided: a debate called at such short notice that they can legitimately claim to have a prior engagement. You will probably find that a lot of important family functions have been fixed for Wednesday July 13.

How many potentially good MPs have we lost through this dreadful practice of one-issue judgment?

Gerald Kaufman

Tory cuts come out of the closet

During the general election campaign Labour spokesmen warned the electorate that, behind the innocuous vacuities of the published Conservative manifesto, there lurked a hidden manifesto containing the Government's real, discreditable programme. Labour forecast that Mrs Thatcher was preparing to reduce the spending power of pensions and other benefits, to move towards dismantling the National Health Service, to cut dole payments in real terms and to damage the social sector by discriminatory reductions in public expenditure.

These accusations were indignantly denied by the Conservatives, and in the election, it seems by the voters too. Now scarcely a month after polling, Labour is unassessably placed to declare smugly: We always told you there was a hidden manifesto, didn't we?

One after another have come the ministerial announcements. First Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, told the House of Commons that, though inflation in November will be around 10 per cent, retirement pensions and other benefits will be increased only by the May inflation figure, 3.7 per cent. Recipients will accordingly be mulcted of £1.20 a week for a pensioner couple and 75p for a single pensioner.

Mr Fowler was a busy man. A week later he disclosed what he described as his growth plans for the NHS. These, in the terms in which he stated them, mildly encouragingly implied a real increase in expenditure for the next 10 years of 0.5 per cent per annum. This, however, was not guaranteed, but depended on the economy doing well enough to justify such munificence. It was also based on the assumption that the 0.5 per cent growth could be found from internal efficiency savings.

What is more, it completely ignored increased demand for the NHS: the rise in the number of the elderly as a proportion of the population means that simply to maintain the service requires a 0.7 per cent growth above the pay and prices index. So Mr Fowler's 0.5 per cent increase actually turns out to be a cut ranging between 0.7 per cent and 1.2 per cent per annum, with these reductions being kept within that level only if the economy performs well.

Then, last weekend, we had the egregious comments on unemploy-

Trolope's novels portray the corruption of power through domination by too few interests. Today we see the corruption of power through domination by too few opinions. In both the old political parties there are certain issues which activists now elevate into infallible litmus tests of a candidate's all-round suitability.

The interesting thing about political litmus tests is that they are not used to assess the loyalty of political aspirants to party policy. The issues chosen are those that are outside, or even against, party policy, the issues local party activists regard as revealing the true colour, so to speak, of the candidate's soul. Is this person really one of us? The answer to this question, yes, or no, will tell us all.

Many litmus test questions (hanging in the Conservative Party, support for Sinn Féin in Labour) are edged with the taste of fear and violence: they are initiation rites, tests of political manhood.

The correct and winning answer will almost certainly be couched in terms that are contemptuous, if not outright abusive, of accepted wisdom on the subject, particularly if that accepted wisdom represents a cross-party consensus. "I'm not afraid to go in and change all that nonsense" is the right tone to adopt. It is necessary to sound blunt, abrasive and intolerant (as much like Rhodes Boyson or Dennis Skinner as possible). It is not necessary to know anything about the issue.

Now it is wholly right to have new MPs who are fearless catalysts of change. The problem is that the litmus test process is far more likely to produce craven conformists of a new sort: people ready to jump when somebody tells them to jump. During the last year I was in the Labour Party the instruction to jump was being given at shorter and shorter intervals, rather like a sadistic ringmaster going off his head. Support the hunger strikers! Let Tariq Ali join! Defy the NEC over Militant! Break the District Auditor! Boycott the Scamman Inquiry! Disrupt Parliament! Are Conservative associations going to start acting the same way?

One huge difference lies between them, and it is one we should all take very seriously. Whereas the litmus tests that left-wing activists choose are such as to lose votes by the million (just read the list above), Tory litmus tests are, far closer to public sentiment. Those litmus tests in hats and those local estate agents are no fools. They know the popular appeal of their harder-line attitudes - not just on hanging, but on immigration control and social security "fraud" as well.

It is an appeal to the darker side of human nature, the side that needs retribution and scapegoats and ritual cleansing, and it is an appeal that grows stronger in times of hardship and uncertainty. It's that we have to worry about most.

The author is SDP member of the GLC and ILEA for Camden, St Pancras North.

ment benefit from Nigel Lawson, the new Chancellor. After his insinuations about the inherent idleness of certain of the unemployed, there was a tremendous flurry of denials that the Government had any beneficial designs on their dole money.

Next, however, came the Prime Minister's explanation, drafted with painstaking care: "In our manifesto we pledged: 'In the next Parliament, we shall continue to protect retirement pensions and other linked long-term benefits against rising prices'. Unemployment benefit is not a linked long-term as we explained. Therefore, no long-term pledge about price protection was given". These words can be translated as follows: We lied to the pensioners, but tricked only the unemployed.

The latest instalment came four days ago, with Mr Lawson's abrupt announcement of £500m of spending cuts, with health, the social services and education all designated as promising areas. On Tuesday Mrs Thatcher had quoted from the published manifesto. On Thursday we were treated to more extracts from the authentic, concealed version. The true nature of what has been taking place was thus described in the *Daily Telegraph*, symbolically turned in as it is to the intricate thought processes of Conservative ministers: "Some political barriers are felt to have been removed now the election is out of the way."

Labour, therefore, is justified in saying: We told you so. The problem is that during the election campaign too few voters listened, because attention was skillfully distracted by the Conservative Party, which instead managed to convince the electorate that Labour's published manifesto was more of a menace to them than anything the Tories might be hiding. Now, when the Labour warnings are day by day seen to be vindicated, the electorate is still distracted from paying heed.

This time the diversion is an internal leadership election campaign which is lasting as long as an American presidential election campaign. For the next three months, Roy Hattersley, Eric Heffer, Neil Kinnock and Peter Shore are doomed to go around the country each giving reasons why he rather than any of the others should be Prime Minister, when all four ought unitedly to be saying why Mrs Thatcher should not be.

The author is Labour MP for Manchester, Gorton.



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IN THE NAME OF GOD, STOP

amadan is now over, and fustians around the world are celebrating the Id al-Fitr. But in Iraq and Iran there is not very much to celebrate. Those two fustian countries continue to demonstrate their attachment to faith which supposedly they have in common by attempting to batter each other into submission. In a war which will soon have lasted three years more than two hundred thousand people are said to have been killed, and another three hundred thousand wounded or taken prisoner.

It is in every sense a war of attrition. A year ago Iran, having liberated all but a few pockets of her own occupied territory, launched a massive thrust into southern Iraq, aimed at Basra. It killed spectacularly and since then the successive Iranian offensives have been much smaller-scale affairs. Iranian commanders have even prided themselves publicly, on occasion, on having achieved limited objectives while incurring few casualties. Although teenagers continue to be indoctrinated and packed off to the front, the ayatollahs seem to have become weary that parents, at least, are less than enthusiastic about seeing their progeny turned into martyrs in such numbers and at so early an age.

A few weeks ago, indeed, the Speaker of the Iranian parliament, Hojatoleslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, publicly acknowledged that the large-scale offensives had not been a great success and that attrition was now Iran's strategy. There can be little doubt that in such a war Iran has the advantage. For this there are two main reasons.

First, Iran has the larger population and more abundant resources of almost all kinds. Secondly, geography enables Iran to blockade Iraqi oil exports through the Gulf but not vice versa. Only a trickle of oil is getting out of Iraq through the pipeline to Turkey. But for financial support from Arab neighbours, and arms supplied almost free of charge by France, Iraq would long ago have been forced to surrender.

Even as it is, Iraq has difficulty paying for essential imports, and its industrial and social development programmes have been suspended *sine die*. Iran by contrast has an excellent credit rating and has lately relaxed controls on imports. British exports to Iran, for instance, are now actually higher than those to Iraq.

President Saddam Hussein, desperately feeling the squeeze,

has been hitting out wildly in attempts to convince Iran that peace is in its interest too. The civilian population of Western Iran has been subjected to repeated missile attacks. Shipping in the vicinity of Iran's ports has also been hit, and attacks on Iranian oilfields are mainly responsible for the vast oil slick which is now polluting the Gulf and wreaking havoc, as the World Wildlife Fund reports, among its population of dolphins, turtles, fish, sea snakes and birds. It may even have exterminated the dugong or sea cow altogether.

Iran would be happy to have international teams come in and cap the leaking wells, but Iraq refuses to guarantee them safe passage unless there is an agreed ceasefire covering the whole area - which would presumably enable it to resume oil exports through the Gulf. Iran sees no reason to relax its grip on Iraq's jugular to that extent, and so the oil continues to spill. The Koran, like the Book of Genesis, takes a firmly anthropocentric view of nature: fellow-creatures are there for man's use and enjoyment. But surely neither faith authorities nor human beings so to abuse their environment for the purpose of better destroying each other.

JUST CAUSE OR IMPEDIMENT

The Church of England has agonized for more than a decade about the remarriage of divorced people in church, with successive reports and debates leading it only gradually and painfully towards the beginnings of an agreed policy. The recommendations to go before the General Synod this week bear the marks of this process. They are designed to satisfy a broad range of opinion in the church, both to secure the necessary majority in the synod itself and to enable as many clergy as possible to operate them without offending their consciences.

The proposals envisage remarriage in church only after a thorough investigation of the circumstances of the previous marriage, on which a panel of advisers will make a judgement. It is not entirely clear what criteria the advisers will apply, though they can presumably be relied upon to detect by instinct really bad cases and really good ones. How they are to make fine distinctions in marginal cases is not so easy to see. In any event, an individual clergyman would still be entitled to decline to perform a second marriage, even after the bishop has announced

the formal dispensation from the earlier marriage vow.

No one could accuse the Church of England of making light of divorce, with such procedures as this, and if those who subject themselves to it detect in it a grudging approach, that does at least correspond to the church's general distaste. Such a couple might reasonably feel, however, that the pains and perils of marriage breakdown and separation, the trauma of divorce itself and subsequently of custody and property problems, followed in due course by new courtship, love and the fresh hope of a better marriage, were penance and satisfaction enough. They are unlikely to regard an ecclesiastical inquiry into past circumstances as a sensitive contribution to the future they face together, particularly as the procedure may include a public announcement of their special matrimonial status when the banns are read.

The church's policy towards them might have been shaped more pastorally, had there not been the over-riding need to devise procedures which would meet as many theological objections as possible. There is no

uniform theology of marriage in the Church of England, and therefore no uniform understanding of what happens when a marriage breaks down. Scriptural and Traditional conservatives find no support for the notion of Christian divorce in their respective deposits, and there is uncertainty about how the church should best demonstrate what it believes to be the Gospel in this matter.

The need for some means of discrimination between cases is underlined, however, by the Government's recently announced intention to shorten the minimum period between marriage and divorce. Were the church to decide to remarry all such applicants, it would find itself in an absurd position. Equally, however, this new proposal suggests that the church should start to discriminate in cases of first marriage, too, to avoid having to marry those who regard their commitment as binding them no more than a year and a day. All this suggests that the best test of suitability for church marriage is present seriousness, not past misdeeds. The latter should only be relevant as a factor in evaluating the former.

FRENCH HEADACHE IN CHAD

The latest fighting in Chad presents President Mitterrand with his worst African problem to date and could lead to the knottiest of his foreign policy entanglements. There is probably a grudging debate among the several centres of power that have traditionally woven French African policy together: at the Elysée the President's own *conseillers* and the often rather autonomous intelligence services; the Quai d'Orsay under M Cheysson; and the ruling Socialist Party, part of whose Third World lobby is intensely hostile to what it sees as the neo-colonialism of all recent French presidents. It is not that the fate of Chad has crucial strategic or economic implications, either for France or for the West. But French handling of the problem could be of great symbolic significance to Africa and to the rest of the world. To this M Mitterrand is clearly sensitive.

President Habré, the now increasingly beleaguered incumbent in Ndjamena, the Chad capital, has had chequered relations with France. In the 70s he was a leader of the northern-based insurrection against the regime then militarily backed by France. It was he who kidnapped and held the French ethnologist Mme Claude for over two years and murdered a French major sent to negotiate her release. But since last year, when his faction won recognition as government by right of conquest and control of the capital, the French have backed him heavily. His ousted rival, M Goukouni, then retired to the northern fastnesses of the

Tibesti mountains, once again receiving help from the Libyan President, Colonel Gaddafi, who has made no secret of his desire to secure a client government in Chad and to annex a northern slice of the country thought to contain uranium. M Goukouni, too, has had variable relations with France, which strove to wean him away from the Libyans during his brief tenure of office in Ndjamena. Now, however, he is tightly back in the Libyan embrace.

Both before and since Colonel Gaddafi's humiliation at the Organization of African Unity last month, when he was forced to concede the chairmanship he had never formally assumed, the Libyans have been massively increasing training and arms-supplies for M Goukouni, who last week captured Chad's major northern town and now appears to have gained the strategic eastern city of Abéché as well. So M Habré is beseeching France for greater help. The question for M Mitterrand is how far he can risk France once again being ensnared into "le guépier tchadien" (the Chad wasps' nest), as *Le Monde* calls it.

If M Goukouni were to defeat M Habré, it would be seen not just as a step towards the fulfilment of Colonel Gaddafi's dream of a pan-Islamic Saharan empire under his own evangelical tutelage; it would be viewed as a serious blow to French prestige. Furthermore, it would create great anxiety among many francophone states which have hitherto been reassured by the knowledge that France rarely jets

down an African friend, and retains the will as well as the capacity to intervene militarily if interests so dictate.

For that reason, the Presidents of Togo, Niger and the Ivory Coast recently flew to Paris to urge M Mitterrand not to let M Habré fall. The Americans, too, have been active behind the scenes, while the Sudanese and Egyptians are giving M Habré whatever arms they can muster. France, indeed, is sending considerable military supplies post haste. M Mitterrand says he will help "without limits" but strictly within the context of a cooperation agreement that rigorously excludes direct French fighting involvement "either to maintain order or to reestablish it". The nearest thing to direct French involvement canvassed at present is the despatch of Jaguar aircraft to harass the Goukouni forces, but even that degree of intervention is most unlikely.

It is thought that M Mitterrand, who has already visited eleven African states as president, is loath to abandon France's traditional role; M Cheysson is considered less emotional, perhaps more pragmatic; more doctrinaire Socialists within the administration are fiercely against any African escapade smacking of Giscardian *hauteur* or Gaullist paternalism. Instead, the Quai is trying to rally other African countries to the Habré cause: Zairian troops have already been flown in. But will they be able to stem the Libyan tide? If not, an era of high-risk French assertiveness in Africa could be ending.

Open education

From Mr Norman Evans

Sir, In view of the letter from the Vice-Chancellor of the Open University which you published on June 28, commenting on the Further Education Unit's recent project report, *Curriculum Opportunity*, may I put the record straight as to what I wrote (para 112) under the heading "Experimental learning is not an open question". This commentary is an elaboration of the finding that this project has not identified, either by questionnaire or discussion, a single instance of systematic assessment or experiential

learning for accreditation towards admission to award-bearing courses in higher and further education. Some reasons are offered. Most of them are complex. One could be simple: that instances do exist but were not discovered within the limited scope of the work. If such practices do indeed exist, information about them would be particularly valuable. But if this finding is valid, it means that the higher and further education system as a whole could be more flexible than it is, within current regulations.

And (para 89): "Recognising that adults may know more than they think they know implies logically the development of policies based on that hypothesis and procedures designed to find out what they know. In

this inquiry there is none which meets any reasonable criteria. Dismaying, but true, that is the major finding of this report."

Curriculum Opportunity has several references to institutional policies for admitting mature students without formal educational qualifications. To quote one (para 60): "... universities have always admitted applicants without the generally required formal educational qualifications".

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN EVANS, Senior Fellow,
Policy Studies Institute,
1/2 Castle Lane, SW7.
July 1.

Turns of the screw on death penalty

From Sir Arthur Peterson

Sir, The recurrent debates on the death penalty have added a new consideration to the familiar arguments on this subject. It seems likely that for many years to come the personal views of future Home Secretaries will be public knowledge.

If the death penalty is restored and the Home Secretary remains responsible for advising on the Royal Prerogative (and no one has yet suggested an acceptable alternative), this will give an added turn of the screw to the strain which the Home Secretary has to bear in making decisions on particular cases and will make it even more certain that each one will be the subject of intense controversy.

When I was Private Secretary to Mr Chuter Ede in the period leading up to the first abolition of the death penalty I saw this trend developing, and it is easy to see how rapidly it would develop in the new situation and with the growth of the media, particularly television.

It seems likely that continued expressions of abhorrence for the use of the penalty would weaken whatever value it has as a general deterrent. Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR PETERSON,
Norton Mill House,
Nortonbury Lane,
Baldock, Hertfordshire,
July 8.

From Sir Ivo Rigby

Sir, Whatever may be his present view, it was that great judge, Lord Denning, a man full of wisdom, humanity and profound practical common sense, who said some years ago: "The ultimate justification of any punishment is that it is the emphatic denunciation by the community of a crime".

In these days, where brutal and vicious crime is an everyday fact of life, I venture to suggest that all too frequently far too great an emphasis is placed upon the despatch of rehabilitation and reformation and not sufficient upon punishment (let us underline that word) and retribution.

The ultimate justification of capital punishment for wilful and deliberate murder is that it is, I believe, the will of the vast majority of the peace-loving community of this country, as the emphatic denunciation by the community of the most serious of all crimes. If that, indeed, be true, then let it be

the law that the penalty for murder is death.

But it cannot be stressed too strongly that, in the light of the appalling rate of violent and brutal murders now taking place in this country - and all too frequently inspired and carried out simply for motives of greed and avarice - it is the existence of the power, and I underline those words, to enforce capital punishment, rather than the inevitable exercise of it, which is so essentially desirable and which should, in my submission, be reintroduced by our legislature at the earliest possible opportunity as, I firmly believe, a most valuable deterrent in the struggle against violent crime resulting in wilful murder.

Yours faithfully,
IVO RIGBY,
1 Dalmeny House,
Thurloe Place, SW7,
July 6.

From Mrs Susanne Dell

Sir, In your leader of July 1, you argue powerfully why the death penalty should not be restored. But there is a change in the law relating to murder which it would be worth making: namely to give to judges the power to impose whatever length of sentence they consider appropriate.

Some of the present argument centres on the fact that the courts cannot in their sentencing discriminate between different cases of murder. The husband who kills his terminally ill wife out of compassion has to be given exactly the same sentence as the armed robber who kills for gain - mandatory life imprisonment. It is then the Parole Board which decides what sentence each should serve.

To deprive the courts of their sentencing powers in murder in order to give them to the Parole Board has little merit. The judges are far better equipped to fulfil the sentencing function than the public, and their decisions can be appealed against. Since 1957, judges have successfully exercised their sentencing discretion in the case of the most unpredictable group of all killers - the mentally disordered diminished-responsibility homicides. They should be given the same discretion in sentencing for murder.

Yours faithfully,
SUSANNE DELL,
4 Reynolds Close, NW11.

Irish dimension

From Mr B. F. O'Grady

Sir, As a graduate in history from an Irish university now resident in the UK, I read with interest the letter (July 2) which Professor J. C. Beckett and other eminent historians signed outlining their objections to the return of hanging.

These historians, many of whom are noted for a "revisionist" view of Irish history, have drawn attention to the fact that the execution of the leaders of the Dublin rebellion in 1916 led to the alienation of moderate opinion in Ireland and subsequent support for armed resistance to the Royal Irish Constabulary and the Army. Yet "martyrs" were created in 1916, but a combination of other factors, ie, the reign of terror unleashed by the "Black and Tans" and international support for the Irish nationalist cause, led to the eventual withdrawal of the British Forces from the South in 1922.

However, since the establishment of the Free State the Irish Government have often acted ruthlessly against any terrorist group who sought to overthrow the state. Mr Cosgrave, Eire's first Prime Minister, had scores of republican

terrorists executed during the 1920s and many others fled (including Michael Flannery) to the USA, where they found support for their uncompromising beliefs. De Valera also executed terrorists when he faced a similar threat to his power in the 1930s.

There is therefore a certain empathy between the citizens of Eire and those of the UK when it comes to dealing with terrorist groups. It is based on a maturity which the Irish have gained from participating in responsible government since 1922. The execution of a terrorist in Ulster for shooting a member of the security forces would, in my opinion, be seen by many in the South as a legitimate action by a sovereign government to maintain law and order in its own state.

While Professor Beckett and others have rightly warned of the perils inherent in executing Irish terrorists in Ulster it must also be realised that there is a body of opinion in the Republic which sees the return of hanging as a first step in lowering the level of crime in both Eire and the UK.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
B. F. O'GRADY,
1 Rosaline Road, Fulham, SW6.

Parliamentary pay

From Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East (Conservative)

Sir, What a silly, petulant and indeed rather bitter-sounding letter from Sir Woodrow Wyatt (July 6).

It is most unfortunate to suggest that MPs are "demanding up to 250 per cent rise in their pay" (ibid). There is no question of the House demanding anything - these figures are based on the recommendations of an independent commission and MPs now have the difficult task of responding to these suggestions.

In the very demanding and

different scene nowadays, the job of the professional MP is very onerous. It is more and more essential to put MPs on equal terms financially with the Civil Service and the Executive, so that Parliament can stop being a docile rubber stamp for any government and more a modern version of the one-party assembly.

This problem must be exercised once and for all, by putting it on a properly paid basis. The present salary figure compares with £30,000 in France and £41,000 in Germany. Yours faithfully,
HUGH DYKES,
House of Commons.

Minority rule

From Mr Barry Jones

Sir, Mr Arthur Scargill was heard on television today as saying: "I am not prepared to accept policies imposed by a government elected by a minority of the electorate."

Perhaps it should therefore be pointed out that all governments in Mr Scargill's lifetime have in fact been elected by a minority.

On June 9 the 13,012,612 Conservative voters represented 30.8 per cent of the UK electorate -

whereas the last two Labour victories, in February and October, 1974, were achieved with only 29.2 per cent and 28.5 per cent respectively.

Even in the landslide of 1945, Labour votes amounted to just 36.8 per cent of the total electorate.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY JONES, Headmaster,
Aronhurst School,
The Promenade,
Clifton,
Bristol,
July 4.

Abolition of GLC

From Mr Alan Lee Williams

Sir, David Walker's excellent articles on the GLC (Spectrum, June 29) highlight the incontrovertible case in favour of the abolition of the GLC. As a former Labour member of Parliament I strongly favour the abolition of the GLC and the transfer of all existing duties and services to the London boroughs with the exception of a number of strategic functions like those associated with land use, transportation (including highways) London transport and refuse disposal, which should be incorporated in a new authority covering the GLC area.

The overwhelming case for abolition does not lie simply in the GLC's obvious inefficiency, rampant duplication of services and lack of genuine strategic role, but in its almost total lack of concern for the plight of the private sector of industry.

The GLC's so-called "chief economic planner" has given vent to his marked bias against the private sector, as shown in the so-called London industrial strategy tabled last February by the GLC at the Greater London Manpower Board. There is no, or little recognition in his so-called strategy that London's relative economic decline is related to both national and international trends as well as to the long-term effects of the decentralisation policies pursued until 1976.

He also ignores the fact that recent increases in both rents and rates in London have greatly exceeded those of many principal provincial centres. London rates have tended to increase more frequently than rents and dramatically faster than inflation and these are decisive factors in forcing companies to leave London.

I believe that the GLC grossly underestimates the harmful impact of rent and rate increases on the

Children's interests in divorce cases

From Mr John Eckelaar

Sir, The decision in *Richards v Richards* (Law Report, July 1) makes urgent a review of the divorce law. Suppose a marriage breaks down but the parties are unable to use (and unwilling to fake) the conditions for immediate divorce (adultery, "behaviour" or one of them (for tactical reasons?) will not petition. Divorce can be had only after separation for two or five years.

If a husband, unwilling or unable to look after the children, refuses to leave the home, despite the more modest requirements for housing a single man, either the mother must stay and live a "separate" life under one roof (hardly desirable or even possible where there are children) or be denied a divorce.

If she leaves, in order to satisfy the conditions for divorce, you apparently regard with equanimity (leading article, July 2) the fact that this may seriously compromise the children's welfare and that the courts should refuse to ameliorate their position.

In fact, the decision in *Richards* does not dictate this consequence, because it leaves open what is to be done if the needs of the children conflict with the interests of one adult vis-à-vis the other. This itself is unfortunate because these decisions will be left to the unguided discretion of judges in the same manner as the (much criticized) present maintenance law.

If the conflict is not resolved in accordance with the children's needs the hollowness of the protestations that, in divorce, the children should suffer the least is revealed.

The genuineness of our allegiance to children's interests becomes apparent only when they no longer coincide with the adults' interests and perception but conflict with them. But children have no votes and form no pressure groups. They are rarely represented in divorce proceedings. They seldom write to *The Times*. Their interests are under a growing threat.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN ECKELAAR,
Pembroke College,
Oxford,
July 4.

From Mrs Jane E. S. Fortin

Sir, Whilst I agree with much of your comment (July 2) on the House of Lords decision in *Richards v Richards* (*The Times*, July 1) relating to ouster orders, I am depressed by the views expressed in the last paragraph. This referred to the Government's proposed new divorce legislation and suggested that a specific direction to the courts to consider the conduct of each spouse when ordering financial provision would make matrimonial law accord more "with the expectations of ordinary married people". It is difficult to believe that on

divorce the man or woman on the Clapham omnibus would really welcome a detailed investigation into their conduct, ranging over the whole period of their marriage, in order to ascertain their respective contributions to the breakdown of their marriage. Inevitably, such investigations would involve the type of mudslinging common to divorce cases litigated prior to the divorce law reforms of the early 1970s and now associated with some American matrimonial disputes.

If it is indeed true that on divorce, large numbers of ordinary married people become vindictive, jealous and vengeful, a direction of the kind proposed would certainly encourage these passions rather than introduce a note of rationality into an emotionally explosive situation. Yours faithfully,
JANE E. S. FORTIN,
King's College,
London University,
Strand, WC2,
July 3.

From Mr Robert A. E. Lippett

Sir, I refer to the article in your columns on June 14 concerning the ecumenical working party report *Children and Divorce*. On page 70, appendix D2 (iii) a psychotherapist states:

"Divorce is always a disaster for children. In divorce, there is no such thing as 'the best interests of the child'... But quite the worst that can happen to a child is that he becomes involved in the long drawn-out, often bitter and acrimonious battles that the parents engage in, both before and after the divorce... But unless all parties in a divorce genuinely want to find the least damaging solution, it is unlikely that any help can do more than mitigate the worst damage."

These remarks should call for greater humility and concern about the needs of children and young people in divorce. The report's recommendations are aimed at members of all the many professions and occupations who are likely to come into contact with a separating couple - the psychiatrist, social worker, lawyer and judge are all human beings and can themselves make mistakes and add to a child's sense of insecurity and guilt.

On page 12 section IV, "Guidelines suggested to local churches" the report states:

"There is also a place for remembrance of children and young people affected by divorce in public worship, and perhaps July 28, the Feast of St Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or the Sunday following, would be a suitable occasion."

I would ask your readers to pray for the children and young people who are caught up in the sadness, anger, torment and guilt that surrounds them.

Yours sincerely
ROBERT A. E. LIPPELT,
27 Rockingham House,
Kings Weston Lane,
Kings Weston,
Bristol,
July 2.

Stress on unemployed

From Miss Hilary Muggridge

Sir, The Medical Research Council, in a television programme on June 21, revealed that their recent research into the effects of unemployment seems to point to the conclusion that the longer a man is unemployed the more likely he is to attempt suicide. Apparently after about 18 months on the dole, men are 19 times more likely to try to take their own lives than men who are not unemployed.

Kenneth Clarke, the Health Minister's, response to this disturbing revelation was as follows: "I think unemployment certainly creates stress in people, and I am quite sure it gives rise to an increased risk of health problems of various kinds. I don't think it's as simple as that. I think you can also find people suffering from mental illness,

and particularly depression, are more likely to be unemployed. But nevertheless, unemployment is a considerable evil, and it does have some effects in raising people's stress and making them more vulnerable, even to suicide - that wouldn't be a wholly surprising conclusion."

Trying to convince the public that black is really white is not, of course, a skill wholly confined to our political masters, but in trying to dismiss serious research into an extremely disturbing problem in such a glib, superficial way, Mr Clarke reveals an attitude which can only be described as inadequate, inappropriate and indefensible. Jim Hacker and Sir Humphrey could not have done better.

Yours faithfully,
HILARY MUGGRIDGE,
2 Princess Road, NW1,
June 29.

Sale of venison

From Sir David Scott

Sir, Dr Fletcher (July 6) seems to imply that venison has no specific flavour of its own until it starts to putrefy. This is not so. It has a flavour as distinct, say, from beef as beef has from mutton or hare from rabbit. He also says that bullet wounds and inadequate bleeding produce a gamey flavour. This does not apply to park deer, almost always fallow, which are invariably killed by rifle shot in the head and have their throats cut immediately to promote bleeding. This method of slaughter has no effect on the flavour of the flesh.

He also suggests that the "fresh" deer flesh he sells from red deer killed at three years old has "the authentic taste enjoyed by our ancestors." This is improbable. In the first place the fallow deer of the old deer parks would have had a better flavour than that of red deer and any of our ancestors owning a deer park would have scorned to eat fresh three-year-old deer, when he could have six or seven-year-old

bucks properly hung before cooking, with a flavour far superior to that of three-year-old animals. As beef is better flavoured than veal and three-year-old mutton, also no longer procurable, is than lamb.

Yours truly,
DAVID SCOTT,
Boughton House,
Kettering, Northamptonshire,
July 6.

Heat of the moment

From his Honour Judge Curtis-Raleigh

Sir, On reading Lady Frances Berend's letter (July 2) about heating being at first at the Bloomsbury and Marylebone County Court on June 18 I thought at first that it must have been heat engendered by some brisk litigation, or something to do with the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo: but no, she was quite right.

There is a powerful machine which blows cold air into the courts in summer and hot air in winter. Following the example of a good many of the witnesses, the machine had become confused in its dates and was blowing hot air in June.

A visit by a mechanic put it right. Yours faithfully,
NIGEL CURTIS-RALEIGH,
5 St Peter's Square, W6,
July 5.

In for a duck

From Mr R. S. Guck

Sir, I must take issue with the contents of your picture article (July 6) which refers to a recent ornithological oddity in Sussex.

Far from being the first "guck" known to science, I can assure you that our family has been thriving for generations, though I have no reason to believe that our origins lie in any sort of liaison such as that referred to in your article.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. GUCK,
63 York Road,
Morpeth, Bristol,
July 7.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

* Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. d Interim payment passed. e Price at suspension. f Dividend and yield excluded. g Special payment. h Bid for company. i Pre-merger figures. j Forecast earnings. k Ex capital distribution. l Ex rights. m Ex scrip or share split. n Tax free. o Price adjusted for late dealings. . . No significant date

0.7	3.8	25.3
2.2	2.7	32.3
		6.1
4.3	1.8	28.8
3.5	1.4	10.0
8.6	4.4	12.4
5.0	6.0	22.4
4.8	4.6	15.5
4.1	3.2	27.0
6.4	2.3	21.4
1.8	1.6	22.4
2.6	5.3	14.9

500	13.0	
150	2.6	26.3
0.1b	0.3	
10.0	12.8	
500	13.2	

هكذا من الاصل

Proposed Advance Corporation Tax changes would penalize US multinationals

Retaliatory amendment spearheads campaign against unitary tax

By Michael Prest

A new campaign against the recently upheld right of American states to levy unitary taxation will be launched this week. A retaliatory amendment to the Finance Bill could result in American companies losing their British Advanced Corporation Tax (ACT) rebate and a stiff note is on its way from Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to Washington.

Opponents of unitary taxation will table an amendment to the Finance Bill tomorrow which will propose that foreign companies operating in Britain but based in places levying unitary taxes should lose their rebate on ACT. The rebate is generally 5 or 6 per cent of profits earned in Britain.

Although the amendment, which will be tabled by Mr Michael Grynlls, Conservative MP for Surrey Northwest, does not mention any companies or countries its impact would fall most heavily on American multinationals.

These companies lobbied vigorously in Washington for the double taxation treaty between Britain and the United States, ratified in 1980. But ironically they could be the most prominent victims of the Commons amendment.

Unitary taxation is a system under which a government taxes a business within its jurisdiction not on the profits it has earned, but on the size of its operations in that area.

It argues that if a certain percentage of assets or staff is in one place then that proportion of group profit is attributable to them, regardless of where the company says it made its profit.

The effect of such a system is to undermine international treaties designed to eliminate or minimize the chance of companies and individuals paying tax on the same income in different places. Objection to double taxation is one of the philosophical foundations of tax theory and legislation.

But the protests of the British Government and companies - contained in Mr Lawson's letter - are based on more than philosophy. The British concession on ACT emerged during the lengthy and complex negotiations over the double taxation treaty in return for the US

City Editor's Comment

Balancing act with weighty problems

No sane person would covet the Chancellor of the Exchequer's job at the moment. Just as Mr Nigel Lawson and his colleagues enter the critical few weeks during which they could decide to cut aggregate government spending in 1984-85 below the White Paper target of £127,000m, the Government's natural supporters in the City are growing daily more apprehensive about how government debt will be funded.

In one respect, the City has no excuse for being baffled. The clear signal from last week's bout of axe-wielding was that the Government will try hard to stay within published public sector borrowing requirement targets. That part of the medium-term financial strategy, at least, seems reasonably safe.

But there are no illusions in Washington or London about the strength of the states' rights lobby. Tax experts are in no doubt that the amendment, if passed, could significantly affect the profitability of subsidiaries and associates of American companies in Britain.

But circular connexion between expansion, money supply and borrowing is completed by the probability that government projections for economic growth were optimistic. Tax revenue will therefore be lower and unemployment payments higher than anticipated.

The easy solution should be issue gilts to soak up the excess money and fund the Government. Last year this was managed with a vengeance when the Government overfunded to the tune of £5 bn. By contrast, there has been no net overfunding this year and instead the public sector has contributed £2.3 bn to the increase in sterling M3.

But it is just these circumstances which make the City so nervous about accepting government debt. If these money-supply and budget problems persist, they augur badly for inflation.

But issuing paper to give the yields which would quell such fears will push up rates generally when sterling is quite strong enough for most exporters. What the non-bank private sector wants is attractive short term paper, possibly indexed. The institutions have the funds. Does Mr Lawson have the ingenuity?

Ministers in crisis talks

By Our Financial Staff

Representatives of the leading trading nations will meet informally at Leeds Castle, in Kent, on Thursday for a two-day discussion of world trade problems.

Although the steel problem is likely to loom large in the informal discussion, Mr Hugh Cobbold, director of the Trade Policy Research Centre, said yesterday that the purpose of the conference was to provide a forum for background discussion on the associated problems of protectionism, disinflation and the debt problem, rather than to bring forward any new initiatives aimed at solving the disputes.

Industrial policy attacked

By Our Financial Staff

Successive governments and the civil service have been roundly criticised in a report on the financing needs of British industry for their failure to recognize the importance of long term, low interest money.

The report, the third from the study group set up by Mr Michael Grynlls MP, says: "The Treasury, Inland Revenue and the Bank of England bear serious responsibility for the lack of action which should have been taken a long time ago in order to prevent the decimation of British industry."

Arguing that Britain is the only country in Europe without some kind of scheme for the long-term finance of industry, the report recommends two possible ways of providing such finance: net-of-interest tax payments and base rate stabilization.

In the first case, medium to long term interest payments would be paid by the industrial borrower net of corporation tax and the interest so paid would not qualify for corporation tax relief. This would significantly improve corporate cash flow.

The point of the second suggestion is to hold interest rates for long term industrial borrowers at 6 per cent. Bank lenders would be compensated by the Government if interest rates rose above that figure.

Mr Bill Pooton, convenor of the group of which Sir John King is the chairman said that the banks were not to blame for the shortage of long-term funds for industry. The problem was a financial system which favoured short term gains. "The City is awash with funds, but the funds are available only for speculation," he said.

Fed set to challenge Reagan

From Bailey Morris

Washington

The powerful open market committee, the US Federal Reserve Board, meets today to decide whether to endorse a controversial shift in monetary policy which would provoke a sharp rise in interest rates and slow the recovery.

Over the past two weeks, there have been numerous reports that Fed members believe they must take steps to slow continued growth in the US money supply to prevent another outbreak of inflation.

Board members are alarmed by inflation on the US budget and estimates of a Federal deficit of about \$200bn (£130bn).

But the Reagan administration, in anticipation of a significant change in Fed policy, has stated emphatically that it would not welcome a new rise in rates which could impede the six-month-old recovery.

Some Fed members, White House officials fear that a rise in rates would not only affect the US recovery but also exacerbate the international debt crisis.

Mr Larry Speakes, the principal White House spokesman, said: "We do not want to see the discount rate raised. We believe the recovery is going to be strong. Our view is that we would not like to see interest rates increased."

Car spares sales drive to Moscow

Thirty British car component companies have been invited to Moscow in September to negotiate contracts with the Soviet vehicle-building industry.

The companies are aiming to sell or license components and production methods. Russia is interested in diesel engines, dashboard instruments, and braking and clutch systems.

IMF's hardline debt plan is leaked

By Patrick Knight, Sao Paulo, and Michael Prest

Payment of the critical second \$411m (£266m) tranche of the International Monetary Fund loan to Brazil is unlikely unless the Fund is convinced that targets not attained in the first half of this year will be met in the second, according to an internal IMF study leaked in Brazil.

Evidence of the tough line being taken by the IMF will include discussions at today's monthly meeting of the Bank for International Settlements in Basel. The gathering will include Mr Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the IMF,

as well as central bankers and possibly Senator Antonio Delfino Neto, the Brazilian planning minister, who unexpectedly left Brazil on Friday.

The BIS meeting could be crucial because Brazil, whose debts total \$90,000m, is being sustained by a \$460m bridging loan from the "central bankers."

Repayment of the loan was delayed by a fortnight to this Friday.

M. de Larosiere will tell the assembled bankers, among whom will be Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, whether agreement on conditions for releasing the second IMF tranche has been reached. If he believes it has, the BIS may extend the deadline for repayment of its loan. But the pressures are mounting from all sides. While the Bank of England has fully supported attempts to support Brazil, it is believed that the prime minister and Sir Alan Walters, his chief economic adviser, favour allowing Brazil to sink or swim on its own.

New round in battle for Waddington

By Philip Robinson

Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher and majority owner of British Printing and Communications Corporation, has rolled his dice again in the takeover fight with the Monopoly games maker, John Waddington, as the prize.

Three weeks ago, Mr Maxwell emerged with a rival takeover bid for Waddington which topped the existing offer from Norion Opta, a smaller group. At the weekend Mr Maxwell issued a formal statement detailing why Waddington would be better under his management than with anyone else.

Mr Maxwell said that substantial benefits would arise from merging the packaging divisions of the two groups, that BPC's management would benefit Waddington products, and there were opportunities for cooperation between the groups' business stationary divisions.

However, BPC's profits forecast, believed to have been one of the reasons it took 21 days to produce the offer, contained no new figures. Mr Maxwell has already announced that this year's profit would exceed last year's record £12.4m and that with the increased profits would come restoration of dividends.

Mr Victor Watson, Waddington chairman, has already refuted both takeovers and said that in defence, it would produce a profit and dividend forecast.

However, Mr Maxwell warned Waddington shareholders: "You need no reminding that forecast has not, in the past, proved its" (Waddington's) strongest suit and that many observers have noted the board's repeated failures to meet its forecasts over recent years."

Business school forecasts modest growth

Britain 'on recovery course'

By Frances Williams

Economics Correspondent

Britain's economic recovery will gather pace this year and continue for several more years at a modest rate, according to forecast published in the London Business School Economic Outlook today.

Forecasters are unlikely to rise much above present levels soon and unemployment will stop rising and begin to fall by the end of next year, the forecasts suggest.

But the balance of payments will plunge into deficit of nearly £1,000m this year and £1,400m next year as rising economic activity sucks in imports.

The LBS predicts growth of 2.25 per cent sticking at 3.1 million this year and next, before falling to 2.9 million in 1986, and inflation averaging about 6 per cent over the next three years.

The forecasts are more cheerful about the economic outlook than many others outside government. They are of special interest because the LBS model of the economy workings comes closest to Treasury thinking especially in the importance attached to the impact of interest rates. Sir Terence Burns, the government's chief economic adviser, was in charge of the LBS forecasts before joining the Treasury in 1979.

The LBS sees growth chiefly from higher consumer spending helped by world recovery and a lower pound, which boosts exports. But, it says, much depends on interest rates coming down.

The end to destocking and some stock rebuilding is expected to add 1 per cent to national output this year and 0.5 per cent in 1984.

LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL FORECASTS FOR ECONOMY

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Output growth %	0.9	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.0
Inflation %	8.0	5.8	6.0	6.1	7.1
Adult unemployment, m	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Balance of payments, £m	4,100	-800	-1,400	100	300

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POWELL DUFFRYN

Poised to benefit from recent investment

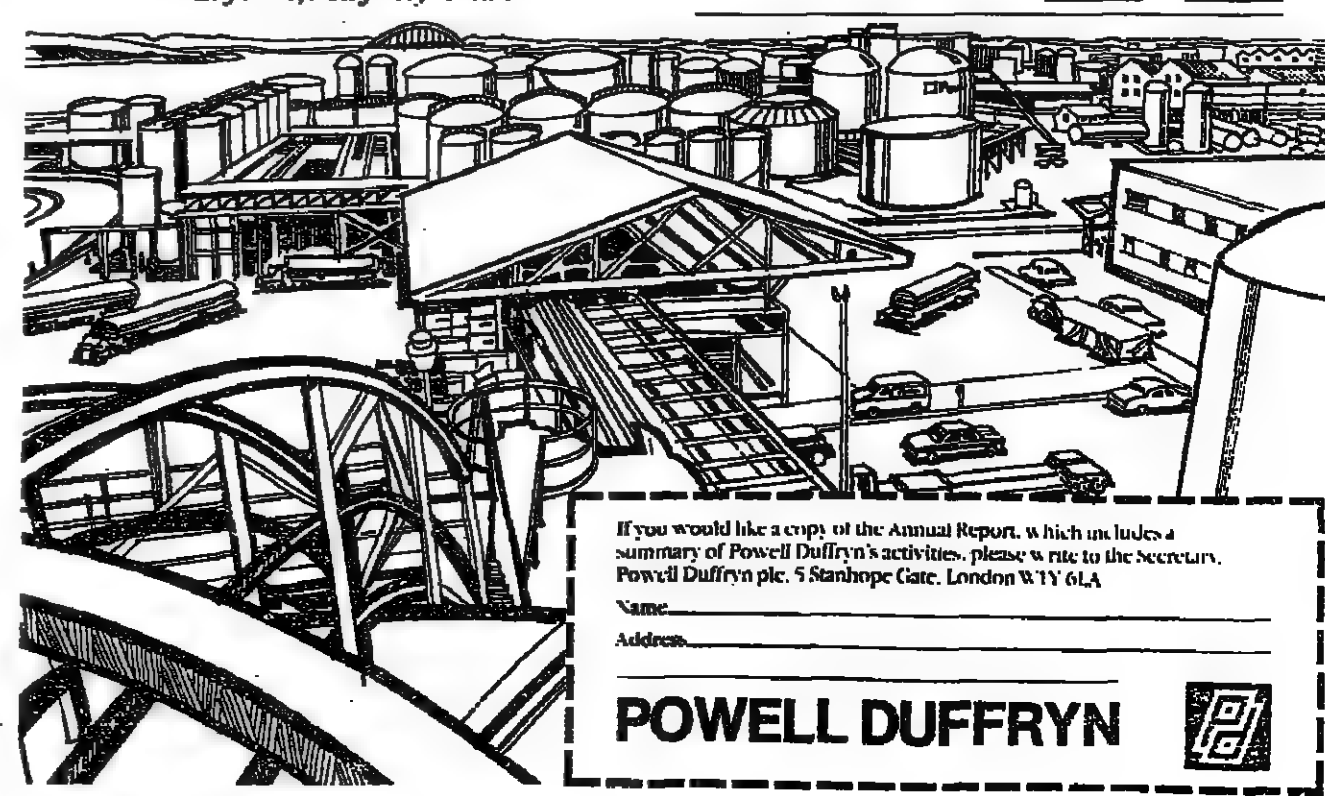
In recent years, the Powell Duffryn Group has maintained a high level of capital expenditure and has increased its geographical spread across the world while, at the same time, strengthening its broad base of UK activities.

In his statement to shareholders in the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 1983 the Chairman, Viscount Sandon, expresses confidence that the Group is well placed to share in the economic growth beginning to come through from the recovery of international trade and industry.

Improved profits from the Shipping, Bulk Liquid Storage, Construction Services and Fuel Distribution Divisions were offset by a disappointing performance from the Engineering Division. Group pre-tax profit at £12.9 million compares with £12.5 million last year. The dividend is maintained at 14.25p.

TRADING PROFITS - £m	1983	1982
Engineering	0.206	3.836
Shipping	4.122	3.718
Bulk Liquid Storage	4.781	4.320
Fuel Distribution	6.936	6.324
Construction Services	4.457	0.940
	20.502	19.138

New tankage at Powell Duffryn Terminals, Bayonne, New Jersey terminal.



If you would like a copy of the Annual Report, which includes a summary of Powell Duffryn's activities, please write to the Secretary, Powell Duffryn plc, 5 Stanhope Gate, London W1Y 6LA

Name _____

Address _____

POWELL DUFFRYN

Unlisted Securities Market review

Biomechanic's spectacular share debut pays dividends for the long wait

The 10 best performing USM shares

	Price 1.1.83	Price 30.6.83	% change
1. Saxon Oil	54.88	195.00	+257.14
2. Hadson Pet Int	38.00	122.00	+221.05
3. Bepack	137.00	260.00	+104.38
4. Yorkgreen Invest	13.50	27.00	+100.00
5. Micro BS Systems	200.00	395.00	+97.50
6. Twinlock	20.00	39.00	+95.00
7. Dunton Group	6.25	11.50	+84.00
8. Leisure Inds Group	188.00	338.00	+81.72
9. Sovereign Oil	142.00	252.00	+77.48
10. Utd Electronic	34.00	59.00	+73.53

The 10 worst performing USM shares

	Price at 1.1.83	Price at 30.6.83	% change
1. Breville Europe	111.00	39.00	-64.86
2. Acis Jewellery	30.00	12.00	-60.00
3. Willaire Sys R/D	7.00	4.00	-42.86
4. Humberside Elect	28.00	17.00	-41.38
5. Berkeley Exptn	10.00	6.00	-40.00
6. Willaire Systems	38.00	5.00	-35.44
7. London Pto Hth	128.00	83.00	-35.16
8. Black (Michael)	160.00	105.00	-34.38
9. Equipu	78.00	58.00	-25.64
10. Heelamat Hlgs	78.00	58.00	-25.64

Unlisted Securities

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chgs	Grav	Div	Yld	Chgs	Grav	Div	Yld
£		1.1.83	Week	£	£	%	1.1.83	Week	£	%
1,000,000	A & S Securities	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1,000,000	Adm Ldg	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

It has been quite a week for Mr Max Rippon, chairman of Biomechanics International, the group which has been the subject of other people's industrial efforts, who has seen the capitalization of his company more than double overnight.

Last week, the 3 million shares, which had been placed by brokers Northcott at 30p, opened up at 108p - one of the most spectacular debuts yet seen on the Unlisted Securities Market. After hitting a high of 125p on Thursday the shares encountered a little profit taking, ending the week at 113p - a massive 63p premium.

For those investors lucky enough to pick up the shares the delay of nearly three months in dealings, while the Stock Exchange carried out rigorous tests has been worthwhile. It is also a clear indication that the City is still prepared to invest in an idea with little, if any, track record to back up the company. Now it is all up to Mr Rippon.

Somewhat overshadowed by Biomechanics' debut last week was Friday's debut of Gable House Properties, the property

development and investment group. However, with its varied spread of developments Gable has succeeded in catching the eye of the institutional investors which insured the shares opened at a respectable premium.

Brokers Strauss Turnbull marked its own debut on the USM by placing 1.15 million shares (about 22 per cent of the company) at 45p a share, putting it on a historic P/E of 10.4. The opening price on the jobbers' boards was 55p - a premium of 20p.

Mr Alan Goldberg, chairman, and two fellow directors Mr Howard Harris and Mr Jonathan Goldberg between them put up 450,000 of the shares on offer. The remaining 700,000 were newly created shares to raise £251,000 for extra working capital.

The group's profits growth over the past six years has been steady, climbing from £41,000 to £278,000. For the past year just ended, the group is forecasting a profit of £300,000 followed by a figure of £350,000 next year. This will be accompanied by a total forecast dividend of 3.25p gross yielding 6.85 per cent.

The bulk of Gable House's developments are situated in and around the St John's Wood area where the group is planning to open new offices shortly. Several newcomers to the USM will be announced this week. The first, Rayford Supreme Holdings, the South of England discount stores group, takes its bow tomorrow. Merchant bankers County Bank, along with broker W. Greenwell will announce the details of a placing of the shares which could value Rayford at around £15m.

Mr Ray Horney, chairman of Rayford, is forecasting a profit of £1.5m for the year to September 30, of about £1.5m, but the group's profits performance has proved erratic and may be the reason County Bank has gone for a placing instead of an offer by tender.

Rayford's previous best was £805,000, but last year this

figure slipped to a mere £291,000.

Two years ago, Mr Paul Bion and his colleagues bought Technology for Business, the loss-making computer group, from the French group LogAbax and set about putting it back on the road to profitability. In its last full year LogAbax reported losses of £400,000 on a £3.5m turnover. But, by last December, the group reported a trading profit of £246,000 on turnover of £2.42m. Since then it has bought Oxyx.

Sales to the legal profession now accounts for over 30 per cent of turnover. The brokers to the issue is Greene & Co.

Brokers Statham Duff Stoop hopes to announce the placing of 10.8 million shares in Metal Sciences at 11p a share on July 19. Dealings should start on December 26.

Mr David Hayles, an audit partner at Arthur Anderson & Co, has joined forces with Mr Grant Manheim, who was appointed a director of Rothchild's Bank, 11 years ago at the age of 28, to take control of New Court Natural Resources, a US exploration company. They describe the company as a rather unexciting oil company which has deliberately avoided some of the riskier aspects of the exploration business.

But the group is sitting on about \$300m of oil revenues over the next decade from its first important prospect, the Asant Field in Oklahoma. The group is actively seeking further developments which it can make viable with its low cost, zero-overhead operation, and may have some news within the next few months.

The peak year for earnings will be 1985-86. Until then growth from last year's pretax profits of £1.4m is likely to be dull.

Final results for the year to March 31 are due to be published on Friday.

Shares of IOC Oil Services dipped 2 1/2p to 30p on Friday as dealers waited nervously for the shares to be suspended ahead of acquisition news.

Michael Clark

Expect a 'full stop' policy on money

The dollar briefly touched DM2.60 in Asia on Friday morning. By close, the September 1983 Deutschmark futures contract in New York had dropped to 39.47 cents, a far cry from the 47 cents for this contract as recently as mid-March.

The Swiss franc September 1983 contract fell to 47.49 cents on Friday, against the January peak of 54 cents.

Less affected than these once-mighty German currencies were the pound and the yen. By Friday's close, September 1983 pounds were \$1.555, against the 1983 peak of 1.600 reached in early June after the British election and the recovery in the world oil price.

Similarly, the yen has not been so badly hit as the Deutschmark and the Swiss franc by the dollar's recent strength. September 1983 yen were 0.4171 cents on Friday, against the peak in May of 0.438 cents.

The jittery that overtook the American financial markets last month led to rises in domestic United States nominal interest rates.

This was a reflection of the pervasive fear in the markets that the Federal Reserve would be obliged to take steps to restrain the wild growth of money that has been a central feature of American policy-making since the middle of 1982.

That fear has led to a rise in short-term United States interest rates over recent weeks. Since mid-May, the yield on 90-day bills has risen from just over 8 per cent to about 9 per cent. Over the same period, the yield on federal funds (bank overnight loans) has risen from 8.50-8.75 per cent to 9-9.25 per cent.

Long-term yields have also risen. Mid-May, long-term treasuries were yielding 10.3-10.5 per cent. Today they are yielding 11.2 per cent.

The rise in money growth that precipitated this further increase in US nominal interest rates occurred in April and May, when money M1 rose at

an annual rate of about 14 per cent.

During June, however, there was no growth in money.

And last week the Federal Reserve indicated by a series of calculated leaks that it intended to make some change in policy to restrict the rate of money growth.

Source: close to the White House believe the Fed will reduce the rate of money growth from 14 per cent to at the most 6 per cent for the next several months.

Knowing the Fed, I believe it is quite possible that having been on a "full steam ahead" course for the past year, it may now switch over to "full stop". Zero money growth for several months would be enough to bring back money M1 into its target range for 1983 by the end of this year.

It is possible that such a course would result in a further increase in US short-term interest rates.

However, it is quite possible that if the markets do perceive negligible money growth this month after zero money growth in June, they may speedily regain their composure and start bidding prices of financial assets up again.

Pressure from many sources is pushing a reluctant Federal Reserve to a decision on slowing money growth. There has been powerful agitation from Mr Martin Feldstein, chairman of the council of economic advisers and from Mr Donald Regan, Secretary of the Treasury.

The acceleration of money growth in the United States over the past year has prevented the dollar from falling as might have been expected in the face of the large overseas trade deficit.

The rest of the world has been pouring capital into the United States.

Quite apart from any considerations of responsibility in economic policymaking, there is an important political incentive for the White House to ensure a sharp reduction in money growth now.

Maxwell Newton

Moulinex

At The Annual General Meeting held on 25 June 1983 under the chairmanship of Monsieur Mantelet all the resolutions put forward by the Board were adopted.

The dividend was fixed at Frs. 4.00, the same as in the previous year which, with the tax of Frs. 2.00 already paid to the Treasury, produces a total income of Frs. 6.00. Payment will be made on 18 July against presentation of coupon No. 13.

In his address, the Chairman recalled the substantial investment efforts made in the last ten years, particularly in the field of "Cooking and Food Preparation".

He stressed the need for Moulinex to press forward steadily with the automation of the whole of its production and at the same time to take up a wide range of new products to safeguard employment.

Thus, in a steeply declining economy, Moulinex fully intends to continue its investment efforts in order to increase its drive in foreign markets.

LASMO

US\$75,000,000

LASMO Eurofinance B.V.

(Incorporated in The Netherlands with limited liability)

Floating Rate Guaranteed Notes due 1989

with Warrants to subscribe

10% Guaranteed Bonds due 1992

denominated in US dollars or pounds sterling

Notes and Bonds unconditionally guaranteed by

London & Scottish Marine Oil PLC

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1948 to 1967)

in accordance with the provisions of the Notes and the Agent Bank

Agreement between Lasmo Eurofinance B.V. and Citibank, N.A.,

dated July 6, 1982, notice is hereby given that the Rate of Interest

has been fixed at 10 1/4% pa and that the interest payable on the

relevant Interest Payment Date, January 11, 1984, against Coupon

No. 3 will be US\$27.13 in respect of US\$65,000 nominal amount of the Notes.

July 11, 1983, London

By Citibank, N.A. (CSI Dept), Agent Bank

CITIBANK



US\$50,000,000

Hapoalim International N.V.

Guaranteed Floating Rate Notes 1985

For the six months

12 July 1983 to 12 January 1984

The Notes will carry an

interest rate of 10 1/4% per annum

Coupon Value US\$349.44

Listed on The Stock Exchange, London

Agent Bank - National Westminster Bank PLC, London

U.S. \$20,000,000

UNION BANK OF NORWAY LTD.

(Follesbanken a.s.)



FLOATING RATE CAPITAL NOTES DUE 1989

In accordance with the provisions of the Notes, notice is hereby given that for the six months interest period from 11 July, 1983 to 11 January, 1984 the Notes will carry an interest rate of 10 1/4% per annum. The interest payable on the relevant interest payment date, 11 January, 1984 against coupon No. 6 will be US\$268.33.



By The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., London Agent Bank

APPOINTMENTS

THE SURVEY ASSOCIATION (ISA): Mr D. A. Francis, managing director, Hunting Surveys, has been elected president of the association for the year 1983/84. Mr T. G. Darling, managing director, Gardline Surveys, has been elected the association's vice president. The retiring president is Mr W. F. Johnston, chairman of Engineering Surveys.

OVERSEAS CONTAINERS (OCL): Mr A. G. Hatchett, deputy chairman, becomes joint managing director.

ALPHA-BETA: Mr Cyril Aberdeen becomes chairman.

FIRE EXTINGUISHING TRADES ASSOCIATION: Mr Peter Carne, a director of Luxfer (UK) and Mr Graham Aitken, managing director of Fire Safety Equipment (Notis), have been re-elected chairman and vice-chairman.

Offshore and International Funds

Fund	Price	Chgs	Grav	Div	Yld
£		Week	£	£	%
1. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
2. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
3. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
4. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
5. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
6. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
7. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
8. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
9. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
10. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00

EUROBONDS PRICES

Country	Par	Yld	Yld
		%	%
1. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
2. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
3. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
4. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
5. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
6. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
7. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
8. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
9. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00
10. Germany	100.00	10.00	10.00

FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS

Stock	Price	Chgs	Grav	Div	Yld
£		Week	£	£	%
1. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
2. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
3. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
4. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
5. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
6. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
7. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
8. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
9. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
10. Anglo Pacific	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

Denny's International N.V.

a Netherlands Antilles corporation

(now Denny's International, Inc., a California corporation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the

Indenture between Denny's International, Inc. and Denny's International, Inc.

dated 15th day of January, 1982, the following bonds are being redeemed

on the 15th day of January, 1983, at the principal amount of \$1,000,000

plus interest thereon to the date of redemption, to wit: \$1,000,000.00

plus interest thereon to the date of redemption, to wit: \$1,000,000.00

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Kelly in overall lead as race goes into the great unknown

From John Wilcockson, Pau

On a day when the thermometer touched 100 degrees in the scorching shade of the pine trees in the Landes Forest, Sean Kelly sent our temperatures rising even more by taking the leader's yellow jersey in the Tour de France. He is only the second Irish rider in the Tour's 80-year history to take the lead, winning it with a dramatic sprint in the Place de Verdun, where 12 months ago he gained his only stage win of the 1982 Tour.

Yesterday, the ninth stage of this year's race had been won by Philippe Chevallier, of France, more than two minutes earlier when 116 riders streamed into Pau for a lap and a half of the town's main square.

"I knew the yellow jersey was there for the taking," said a delighted Kelly two minutes later.

Before the sprint he had moved to within nine seconds of the overnight leader, Kim Anderson, of Denmark, after picking up three time bonuses during the long day from Bordeaux.

Chevallier had pocketed the winner's bonus, which left 20 and 10 seconds for the next two finishers. Coming into town, a Dutchman, Gerard Veldscholten, had nipped away, arriving 12 sec before the rest, which meant that Kelly had to win the bunch sprint to achieve his object.

With a lap remaining, he was comfortably holding third place in the fast-moving line, and he launched his sprint from this position down the finishing straight, with Etienne de Wilde of Belgium challenging him all the way.

There were no extrovert gestures from the all too serious Irishman, who free-wheeled to a half, away from the mob of cyclists who were raiding the leader's mineral wagon. Kelly calmly analysed his success, still wearing the green jersey which he had taken off Eric Vanderaerden on Saturday. Young Vanderaerden wilted in the heat yesterday, could not hold the pace on the hills during the closing kilometers, and he finished 13 minutes after the pack.

It was the end of his first Tour de France as he will not set out with the rest this morning in the Pyrenees. As a result, Stephen Roche, of Dublin has taken over the white jersey as best Tour newcomer, making it a day of double triumph for the Irish.

"I didn't have the ambition of taking the yellow jersey before today's start," said Kelly, "but I had to contest the rush sprints to defend my green jersey against de Wilde. It was a very hard day in the heat but my team was very good today." It was the efforts of his Sem-Mavic team during the last 40 kilometers which gave Kelly the opportunity in the last two kilometers to push his 133 kilometers left, and the finish.

Chevallier, aged 22, a former junior French champion, had made his move in Armagnac, the country of D'Artagnan, with the most difficult 36 kilometers of the stage left to ride. No danger, 15 minutes behind on overall time, this 20th century cavalier from Savoy opened a 10 minutes gap in the next hour,

and he bravely held on to the end.

Behind, a series of counter-attacks split the bunch, with well placed riders like Vanderaerden, van der Poel and Matthys being spewed out the back on the climbs.

Now that the lead has been taken by Kelly, exactly 20 years after Seanus Eliott achieved the same honour - how long can he retain it? "I might lose it tomorrow," predicted the 27-year-old from Carrick-on-Suir. "I might lose a lot of time in the mountains, so I had to make sure that I wore

the yellow jersey for at least one day. You might not ever get the chance again in your life."

What faces Kelly today is the great unknown: the giant mountain stage of 200 kilometers, crossing the highest roads in this Tour, the Tourmalet, as well as the Aubisque, Aspin and Peyresourde passes on the mile high Route des Pyrenees.

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the yellow jersey for at least one day. You might not ever get the chance again in your life."

ATHLETICS: MEDAL PROSPECTS RUN INTO FORM

Helsinki beckons brightly for the long distance prospects

By Pat Butcher

Two contenders for top honours in the first world championships in Helsinki next month emerged during the Oslo Games on Saturday. One was Carlos Lopes of Portugal, who proved again that he is a much better competitor than his compatriot, Fernando Mamede with a 10,000 metres time close to the world record. The other was Doug Padilla, of the United States, who ran the fastest 3,000 metres in the world this year to give notice of his 5,000 metres aspirations for Helsinki.

In addition several British athletes furthered their claims for places on the national team to be chosen next week.

Lopes finished in 27min 23.44sec for the third fastest ever 10,000 metres, the most impressive feat of his victory being his last three laps of the 25-lap race. They took him just over three minutes which is the pace for a four minute mile, something that most of the world's middle distance runners can still only dream about. That Lopes was doing it as the culmination of over six miles of racing makes his feat all the more astonishing.

Since one of the signs in Lopes' racing repertoire is a sprint finish, this is the sort of elevated pace for the last kilometre that he is nurturing in order to outdistance his opponents in both the 10,000 metres and the marathon in Helsinki. It worked perfectly in Oslo, Lopes

dropped Mamede and the two Britons, Nicky and Steve Jones at the start of his surge, and finished one second outside Henry Rono's world record, and four-tenths slower than Mamede's time, set in Paris last year.

Rono, in third place, was rewarded with the third fastest ever British time of 27:31.19 behind Brendan Foster's 27:30.3 and Dave Bedford's 27:30.0 and record of 27:30.8. Rono and Jones, fourth in 27:39.14, after initiating the mid-race break that took the quarter away from the rest, have surely earned their selection for Helsinki.

Garry Cook also made a strong claim for inclusion in the British World championship team by running 1:44.06 for second place in the 800m behind Joachim Cruz of Brazil. The selections for both the 800m and the 1,500m are far from being clear-cut, however as in the 10,000m. Cook has already been selected for 800m, and Cook has now run the second fastest British time of the season, two hundredths of a second faster than Peter Elliott, who like him has yet to prove himself a winner on top competition.

The Olympic 500m champion, Steve Overt, is now rehabilitated and has surely done enough to ensure selection at 1,500m, but has yet to announce his intentions for further the marathon in Helsinki. It is complicated by the fact that both

the Commonwealth bronze medalists Chris McGregor, and Graham Williamson, who are currently at the World Student Games, have also qualified at 800m.

Padilla who was the World Student Games 5,000m champion in 1981, looked so easy in winning the 3,000m in 7:35.84, the fifth fastest time ever, that he is clearly going to be among the 5,000m favourites in Helsinki.

If Padilla's compatriot, Steve Scott, continues to be as decisive in his finishing as he was in the mile that he won in 3:49.49, then he may yet prove to be the great middle distance runner that he keeps telling us he is.

Hugh Jones, of Ranelagh who has never lost a marathon and is a possible medal winner at Helsinki, caused some concern after winning the 10-mile road race, sponsored by Lada, at Ayr on Saturday. Although success came easily for Jones with a 500 yards triumph in 50min 58sec over another former A.A.A. title holder, Jeff Norman, of Ayr, the complaint, which is a discomfiture in his ankles, both of which were operated on eight months ago for Achilles trouble, which forced him to withdraw from the European championships in Athens last September.

Results: 1. M. Jones (Ranelagh), 50min 58.2; 2. J. Norman (Ayr), 51:48; 3. M. Pitt (Ranelagh), 52:5.

All the results from Oslo

Winners
Men
100m: 1. C. Einar (GB), 10.50; 2. J. Oates (GB), 10.52; 3. M. Einar (GB), 10.53.
200m: 1. C. Einar (GB), 21.5; 2. J. Oates (GB), 21.5; 3. M. Einar (GB), 21.5.
400m: 1. C. Einar (GB), 46.31; 2. G. Cook (GB), 46.31; 3. S. Oates (GB), 46.31.
800m: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 1:44.06; 2. G. Cook (GB), 1:44.06; 3. S. Oates (GB), 1:44.06.
1,500m: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 3:49.49; 2. G. Cook (GB), 3:49.49; 3. S. Oates (GB), 3:49.49.
3,000m: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 7:35.84; 2. G. Cook (GB), 7:35.84; 3. S. Oates (GB), 7:35.84.
5,000m: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 15:50.00; 2. G. Cook (GB), 15:50.00; 3. S. Oates (GB), 15:50.00.
10,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 27:23.44; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 27:31.19; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 27:39.14.
20,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 55:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 55:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 55:00.00.
30,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 82:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 82:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 82:00.00.
40,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 109:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 109:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 109:00.00.
50,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 136:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 136:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 136:00.00.
60,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 163:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 163:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 163:00.00.
70,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 190:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 190:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 190:00.00.
80,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 217:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 217:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 217:00.00.
90,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 244:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 244:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 244:00.00.
100,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 271:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 271:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 271:00.00.
110,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 298:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 298:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 298:00.00.
120,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 325:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 325:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 325:00.00.
130,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 352:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 352:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 352:00.00.
140,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 379:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 379:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 379:00.00.
150,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 406:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 406:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 406:00.00.
160,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 433:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 433:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 433:00.00.
170,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 460:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 460:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 460:00.00.
180,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 487:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 487:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 487:00.00.
190,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 514:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 514:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 514:00.00.
200,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 541:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 541:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 541:00.00.
210,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 568:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 568:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 568:00.00.
220,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 595:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 595:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 595:00.00.
230,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 622:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 622:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 622:00.00.
240,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 649:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 649:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 649:00.00.
250,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 676:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 676:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 676:00.00.
260,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 703:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 703:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 703:00.00.
270,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 730:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 730:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 730:00.00.
280,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 757:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 757:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 757:00.00.
290,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 784:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 784:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 784:00.00.
300,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 811:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 811:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 811:00.00.
310,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 838:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 838:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 838:00.00.
320,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 865:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 865:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 865:00.00.
330,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 892:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 892:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 892:00.00.
340,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 919:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 919:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 919:00.00.
350,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 946:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 946:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 946:00.00.
360,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 973:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 973:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 973:00.00.
370,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1000:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1000:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1000:00.00.
380,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1027:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1027:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1027:00.00.
390,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1054:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1054:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1054:00.00.
400,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1081:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1081:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1081:00.00.
410,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1108:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1108:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1108:00.00.
420,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1135:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1135:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1135:00.00.
430,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1162:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1162:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1162:00.00.
440,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1189:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1189:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1189:00.00.
450,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1216:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1216:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1216:00.00.
460,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1243:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1243:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1243:00.00.
470,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1270:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1270:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1270:00.00.
480,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1297:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1297:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1297:00.00.
490,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1324:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1324:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1324:00.00.
500,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1351:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1351:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1351:00.00.
510,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1378:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1378:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1378:00.00.
520,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1405:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1405:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1405:00.00.
530,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1432:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1432:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1432:00.00.
540,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1459:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1459:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1459:00.00.
550,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1486:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1486:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1486:00.00.
560,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1513:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1513:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1513:00.00.
570,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1540:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1540:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1540:00.00.
580,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1567:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1567:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1567:00.00.
590,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1594:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1594:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1594:00.00.
600,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1621:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1621:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1621:00.00.
610,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1648:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1648:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1648:00.00.
620,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1675:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1675:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1675:00.00.
630,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1702:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1702:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1702:00.00.
640,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1729:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1729:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1729:00.00.
650,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1756:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1756:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1756:00.00.
660,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1783:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1783:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1783:00.00.
670,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1810:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1810:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1810:00.00.
680,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1837:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1837:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1837:00.00.
690,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1864:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1864:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1864:00.00.
700,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1891:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1891:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1891:00.00.
710,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1918:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1918:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1918:00.00.
720,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1945:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1945:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1945:00.00.
730,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1972:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1972:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1972:00.00.
740,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 1999:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 1999:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 1999:00.00.
750,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2026:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2026:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2026:00.00.
760,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2053:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2053:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2053:00.00.
770,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2080:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2080:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2080:00.00.
780,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2107:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2107:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2107:00.00.
790,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2134:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2134:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2134:00.00.
800,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2161:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2161:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2161:00.00.
810,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2188:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2188:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2188:00.00.
820,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2215:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2215:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2215:00.00.
830,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2242:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2242:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2242:00.00.
840,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2269:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2269:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2269:00.00.
850,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2296:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2296:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2296:00.00.
860,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2323:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2323:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2323:00.00.
870,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2350:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2350:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2350:00.00.
880,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2377:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2377:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2377:00.00.
890,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2404:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2404:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2404:00.00.
900,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2431:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2431:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2431:00.00.
910,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2458:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2458:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2458:00.00.
920,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2485:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2485:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2485:00.00.
930,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2512:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2512:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2512:00.00.
940,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2539:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2539:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2539:00.00.
950,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2566:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2566:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2566:00.00.
960,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2593:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2593:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2593:00.00.
970,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2620:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2620:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2620:00.00.
980,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2647:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2647:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2647:00.00.
990,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2674:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2674:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2674:00.00.
1,000,000m: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 2701:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 2701:00.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 2701:00.00.

Women
400 metres: 1. M. Jones (Ranelagh), 1:00.00; 2. J. Norman (Ayr), 1:01.00; 3. M. Pitt (Ranelagh), 1:02.00.
800 metres: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 2:00.00; 2. G. Cook (GB), 2:01.00; 3. S. Oates (GB), 2:02.00.
1,500 metres: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 4:00.00; 2. G. Cook (GB), 4:01.00; 3. S. Oates (GB), 4:02.00.
3,000 metres: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 8:00.00; 2. G. Cook (GB), 8:01.00; 3. S. Oates (GB), 8:02.00.
5,000 metres: 1. J. Cruz (Br), 16:00.00; 2. G. Cook (GB), 16:01.00; 3. S. Oates (GB), 16:02.00.
10,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 32:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 32:01.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 32:02.00.
20,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 64:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 64:01.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 64:02.00.
30,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 96:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 96:01.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 96:02.00.
40,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 128:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 128:01.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 128:02.00.
50,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 160:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 160:01.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 160:02.00.
60,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 192:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 192:01.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 192:02.00.
70,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 224:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 224:01.00; 3. H. Rono (Ken), 224:02.00.
80,000 metres: 1. C. Lopes (Port), 256:00.00; 2. D. Padilla (USA), 256:01.

Amount of dividend for shareholders on company transfer

Hawker Siddeley Group plc v Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd and Another.

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Roskill, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Templeman.

[Speeches delivered July 7]

On the acquisition of Hawker Siddeley subsidiaries by British Aerospace, the company's obligation to pay a final dividend to its former shareholders was a matter of some importance.

The House of Lords reinstated the order of Mr Justice Dillon to that effect in unanimously upholding the appeals of Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd and Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd from the decision on December 6, 1982, of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Oliver) in favour of the respondents.

LORD TEMPLEMAN said that the question was whether the former shareholders of the appellants whose shares were transferred by the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977 to British Aerospace on April 29, 1977 were entitled under section 25 of the Act for the period from January 1 to April 28, 1977 to a dividend equal to the certified net revenue for that period plus a tax credit equal to the advance corporation tax attributable to the dividend.

The certified net revenue of the first appellant for the relevant period was £3.6m. Mr Justice Dillon decided that the respondent was entitled to all the issued share capital of the appellants immediately before April 29, 1977 was entitled to a dividend of £2.4m and to a tax credit of £1.2m equal to the advance corporation tax attributable to the dividend of £2.4m.

The Court of Appeal reversed that decision and held that the respondent was entitled to a dividend of £3.6m and to a tax credit of £1.9m equal to the advance corporation tax attributable to the dividend of £3.6m.

Sections 23 and 24 of the Act controlled the dividends permitted to be paid by several companies, including the first appellants, whose shares were by section 19 transferred to British Aerospace. The control applied to the dividends paid between the date of the transfer of shares and the date of the transfer which in relation to the first appellant was April 29, 1977.

The Court of Appeal reversed that decision and held that the respondent was entitled to a dividend of £3.6m and to a tax credit of £1.9m equal to the advance corporation tax attributable to the dividend of £3.6m.

Sections 23 and 24 of the Act controlled the dividends permitted to be paid by several companies, including the first appellants, whose shares were by section 19 transferred to British Aerospace. The control applied to the dividends paid between the date of the transfer of shares and the date of the transfer which in relation to the first appellant was April 29, 1977.

Occupier under no duty to prevent trespassers from burgling neighbours

Peri (Exporters) Ltd v Camden London Borough Council

Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Goff

[Judgment delivered June 30]

There was no duty upon occupiers of premises to prevent their own premises as to prevent third parties over whom they had no control from entering their neighbours' premises.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the defendants, the London Borough of Camden against a decision on March 25, 1982 of Mr Barry Cheevers, Q.C. sitting as deputy High Court judge (17th June 1982) who awarded damages of £12,338 to the plaintiffs, Peri (Exporters) Ltd in respect of a theft by unknown third parties.

Mr Desmond Browne for the plaintiffs, Mr Michael Turner, Q.C. and Mr John Turner for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE WALLER said in a reserved judgment that the defendants owed Nos 142 and 144 Southampton Row, London.

The plaintiffs, the tenants of No 142 used the basement for storage of clothing in connection with their business. The basement of No 144 which was unoccupied was used by the defendants for storage of clothing in connection with their business.

There were no locks on the front door of No 144 and the door leading into the basement was off its hinges. Tramps and vagrants had been seen in the premises and there had also been several burglaries.

There had been a number of complaints to the defendants about the lack of security but nothing had been done about it. On May 22, 1977 thieves knocked a hole into the common basement wall between the two premises and through that hole a slim person was able to climb and steal over 700 garments.

The judge held that there was an absence of reasonable care on the part of the defendants in that they had continuously neglected to supply a secure structure and should have known that vandals, tramps and undesirable persons would be on the premises and therefore it should have been foreseen that damage would ensue.

The defendants submitted that they were not under any duty to

Control was imposed in respect of periods of control defined as the last financial year ending before March 17, 1975 and any subsequent periods ending before April 29, 1977. The financial year of the first appellants corresponded to the calendar year and therefore they had four periods of control, namely the financial years ending December 31, 1974, 1975 and 1976 and the financial year January 1 to April 28, 1977.

Section 25 of the Act directed that as soon as the people after April 29, 1977 there should be paid to the respondent, the sole shareholder of the first appellant immediately before that date "payments of dividend for the final financial period... of such amounts as the aggregate payments of dividend for that period... are equal to the maximum amounts permitted under section 24...".

The final financial period was defined by section 25(4) as such part of the financial year during which the date of transfer, namely April 29, 1977, occurred as preceded that date.

Thus the respondent became entitled to dividends up to the prescribed maximum in respect of the first appellant's activities during the final financial period between January 1 and April 28, 1977. The dividends could not be group dividends because section 25 only operated after the first appellant ceased to be the subsidiary company of the respondent.

Section 25 entitled the respondent to a dividend which was a qualifying distribution and to the tax credit attributable to it. In his Lordship's opinion the dividend which was a qualifying distribution was to be equal to the maximum amount of dividend which was a qualifying distribution payable under section 24. There was no justification in the words of the Act for payment under section 25 of dividends which were qualifying distributions in amount to the certified net revenue plus a tax credit appropriate to the dividend.

Nor was there any justification for paying under section 25 qualifying distributions equal in amount to the maximum group dividend which could have been paid under section 24, first because group dividends were irrelevant to section 25 and second because qualifying distributions and group dividends were mutually incompatible.

The "maximum amounts permitted" under section 24 of dividends which were qualifying distributions for the final financial period of the first appellant were £2.4m which together with the advance corporation tax of £1.2m attributable to that dividend constituted the maximum dividend payable of £3.6m permitted by section 24. Mr Justice Dillon was therefore correct in his decision, and the appeal was allowed.

LORD DIPLOCK, LORD FRASER, LORD ROSKILL and LORD BRIDGE agreed.

Solicitors: Linklaters & Paines, Simmonds & Simmons.

Overcrowding must be taken into account

Regina v Eastleigh Borough Council, Ex parte Beattie and Another.

Since the housing authority had not considered whether accommodation was reasonable for the applicants to occupy pursuant to section 17(1) of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977, the authority's decision that the applicants were intentionally homeless

had to be quashed. Mr Justice Woolf held in the Queen's Bench Division on July 5.

HIS LORDSHIP said that if accommodation was overcrowded, the authority could come to the conclusion that it was not reasonable for the applicants to occupy it and accordingly the applicant would not fall within section 17(1) as a person who had become intentionally homeless.

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Prior casts shadow over vote on hanging

Continued from page 1

concerned they would be more inclined to remain silent."

He went on: "The valuable information and evidence which has recently begun to flow from converted terrorists, sometimes described as super-grass, would be jeopardized if people knew their former colleagues might hang."

Mr Prior said that far from deterring terrorism, executions would lead to more acts of violence, killings and atrocities against members of the security forces and others on a substantial scale.

He said that after opposing capital punishment for many years he had voted for the return of the death penalty for terrorists in 1975, but recognized that within a short time this was a "mistaken and emotional response". Long before he was closely associated with the affairs of Northern Ireland he had reverted to his former position.

The return of hanging would give the IRA more chances to use the skill they had demonstrated at turning terrorists into martyrs and drawing strength and support from executions.

He said the statistics showed why Northern Ireland considerations were crucial. If capital punishment had existed for terrorist murder during the past six years there would have been 19 cases in Northern Ireland for every one in England and Wales.

Dr Garret Fitzgerald, the Irish Prime Minister, said yesterday it would be a disastrous mistake to bring back the death penalty in Britain. It would lead to violence and death in Northern Ireland (our Dublin Correspondent writes).

Joe Cahill, former IRA leader, once reprieved only three days before his execution, said that the reintroduction of hanging would be no deterrent to "freedom fighters".

● If capital punishment is reintroduced, prison governors strongly against will resign from the service. Mr Brittan was told in a letter from the governor's branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants (our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

If hanging does come back, the governors will want to play no part in it.

As forecast in *The Times* last Monday, "the vast majority of our members are voicing the gravest reservations".

Moral majority, page 10
Letters, page 11
Runcie challenge, page 12

Hanging: The fundamental arguments

By Richard Evans

The House of Commons will decide on Wednesday - after an increasingly vociferous public debate - whether to restore capital punishment 14 years after its abolition.

According to all the recent surveys the outcome will be very close and could rest with a small group of MPs who have yet to make up their minds, or who have not disclosed their intentions.

According to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, public opinion will play a crucial role in the Commons debate. The wide spread of views on hanging that will be enunciated in Parliament have been well rehearsed in recent weeks, with the Church judiciary, police, prison officers and penal reform groups among those who have lobbied MPs.

In the run-up to the crucial debate there are some of the arguments which have been expressed - and on which MPs will have to decide.



Lord Brooke of Cumnor
Conservative Home Secretary from 1962 to 1964

I was the last Home Secretary to consider death sentences. Before I took office I thought hanging was a uniquely powerful deterrent. After two years, I found it quite ineffective.

The pro-hanging lobby talks of death for terrorist crimes, but then the whole problem of definition arises. A man's life can't be based on the drawing of a line.

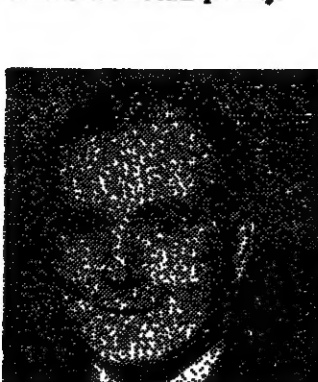
In all I considered 12 cases given the death sentence. Six were reprieved and six went ahead. The moment of execution wasn't the most intense, rather the actual signing of the document.

As Home Secretary I didn't shirk my duty and I think one person - rather than a committee - should be responsible for such decisions if that is the law of the land. But during my term of office, my opinions on the merits of hanging changed enormously.



Mrs Margaret Thatcher
(during the election campaign)

- I believe a majority of people in this country would vote for the restoration of the death penalty. I, too, would do that, and have always done so when it comes up in Parliament, because I believe there are some people, with guns and weapons, who would be determined to shoot their way out of trouble but who would not do so if there was a death penalty.



Mr Albert Pierrepont,
former hangman

- We have gone too far for capital punishment to be of any help now. The death penalty never once acted as a deterrent in all the jobs I carried out. If an IRA terrorist were found guilty and executed, how many innocent people would then be killed for revenge? More terrorists could be caught and executed and it would go on. I don't think an eye for an eye works anymore.

The leading Christian churches in Britain have come out against capital punishment. The British Council of Churches, in a letter to MPs expressing its "total opposition", says: "Christians revere and respect all human life as God's gift. The judicial taking of life as a penalty for murder does not enhance the sacredness of human life but further devalues it."

The Roman Catholic Bishops



Mr Roy Hattersley
Shadow Home Secretary

- I am opposed to the return of capital punishment - opposed in principle and opposed without reservation. The state does not possess the moral right to take the life of a man or woman. Even if the death penalty were a deterrent, I would be opposed to its reintroduction, but there is no conclusive evidence to support the view that a return to judicial execution would reduce either the murder rate or the number of violent crimes.



Dr John Habgood,
new Archbishop of York

- I very much hope the House of Commons will decisively reject hanging. I can understand the pressures that lead people to want it. But I believe that deliberately to kill people in cold blood - and that is what hanging is - is dehumanizing to all involved. I don't believe that hanging will in the least diminish the perils of terrorism and I believe that terrorists thrive on martyrdom.

Many lawyers, too, oppose the restoration of the death penalty. Mr Richard Scott, QC, chairman of the Bar, said: "I find myself unable to believe any such legislation would be put into effect; it is a relic of the past."

Mr Michael Hill, QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, said last week: "Theoretically, as long as I practise as a barrister, I will have to accept the instructions for prosecution or defence in a capital murder case, if Parlia-



Sir Robert Mark
Former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police

- restoration of the death penalty would make it harder to convict criminals. If capital punishment meant that unanimous jury verdicts were to be the only acceptable verdicts again the consequences for maintaining law and order would be disastrous. The way to reduce deliberate crime is not the severity of sentence but the probability of being caught and convicted.



Mr Peter Tanner,
Police Federation secretary

- The overwhelming view of the police service is that capital punishment should be restored for murder. We accept there are degrees of murder and we are not saying all persons convicted of homicide should suffer the death penalty. In an increasingly violent society the state must be empowered to decide that, in some cases, the only adequate punishment is the death penalty.

Mr Charles Oxley, chairman of the Campaign for Law and Order, said: "My support is based entirely on a Christian belief and not on the deterrent theory, even though I think there's some truth in that."

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